

NEVADA

Silver&Blue

The magazine of the University of Nevada, Reno • Winter 2015

Graduate students shine at Nevada



10 things to know about the
University Master Plan

What I've Learned
Mary Simmons '78

Cody Fajardo '14
"Thank you, Nevada"





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From the President

Graduate study at the University: Helping our students find their place

2015 marks an important anniversary for our University. In 1955, the Board of Regents created a separate School of Graduate Study at the University. We've come a long way since then.

From the first few doctoral programs of the 1960s (geology, chemistry and physics were among the first created), the University has invested a great deal in post-graduate education. Today, our University offers graduate degrees in numerous disciplines, in areas ranging from cell and molecular biology to hydrology to speech pathology to English and psychology.

Graduate education is the hallmark of any successful, steadily growing, high-quality research university. The teacher-student relationship at the graduate level becomes more of a partnership, producing a high degree of collaboration.

We've made a significant investment in graduate education in recent years. We've increased our typical graduate student teaching stipend so that it is funded at a more nationally competitive level. Many additional graduate teaching assistant positions have been added in the last two years. In the fall, on-campus graduate student housing was vastly improved with the grand opening of Ponderosa Village, a 132-unit complex for our graduate student population, including a number of our international students. And, in an investment that will attract more top graduate students and boost our annual research and scholarly productivity, the University is committed to hiring nearly 300 tenure-track professors over the next seven years. Increasing our tenure-track positions and growing our graduate student enrollment are central to our vision of reaching by 2021 the prestigious "Carnegie Research University/Very High" classification.

I know in my own experience, the beauty of graduate education is how it can fine-tune an individual's expectations and preparations for their career. My graduate studies included a fellowship to a consortium-like program at North Carolina State which focused on science and society. It was a classic interdisciplinary endeavor, where I worked for the director of the program, who was a theologian. We held colloquia and seminars, and, as a young man with long legs and untapped energy in reserve, I was constantly on the move. In the course of my fellowship, I traveled back and forth between the three great universities of the so-called "Research Triangle" – Duke, North Carolina and North Carolina State. It was a fascinating experience, and although I still wasn't completely certain what my next educational or career step would be, my fellowship exposed me to new points of view and perspectives, and reinforced in me the feeling that collaboration, cooperation and teamwork across the disciplines of natural sciences, social sciences and humanities are essential pieces in solving the important issues of our time.

When I traveled to Michigan State University to work toward my Ph.D. in international development in the agricultural economics department, I knew it was time to hone in on a more specific approach to knowledge. This led me into the study of many of the world's agriculturally based economies, which in turn took me into applied research and how to solve many of the inherent challenges such fragile economies face. I came away from that experience with a Ph.D. – and the knowledge that I could be a contributor in an increasingly interdependent world.

In this issue, you will be reading about several of our graduate students. They, too, are in the process of not only finding their place in our world, but in improving it through the incredibly vital knowledge and personal experience they acquire through graduate study at our University.

Sincerely,

Marc C. Johnson

Marc A. Johnson
President

www.unr.edu/president



Photo by Theresa Danna-Douglas

Graduate Student Association President RJ Boyajian and President Marc Johnson. Boyajian, a tireless advocate for graduate students, is in the Ph.D. program in political science.

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About the cover

Marcela Loria-Salazar '13 M.S., photographed by Jamie Kingham '93, is a Ph.D. student in the Atmospheric Sciences Interdisciplinary Graduate Program, offered through the Department of Physics in partnership with the Desert Research Institute's Division of Atmospheric Sciences. Learn more about Loria-Salazar's research and the work of other outstanding graduate students at Nevada on page 2.

Only Online

Visit our website for photo galleries, full versions of the printed stories, plus video and audio clips. You can also access *Nevada Silver & Blue* archives. Visit www.unr.edu/silverandblue. In this issue:

Feature – To see videos of Darren Ripley's at-home lectures and the University Master Plan document, please visit: www.unr.edu/silverandblue.

Gatherings – For more photos from all of our events.

Remembering Friends – For the full obituaries.

LOOK ONLINE: When you see this **LOOK ONLINE** notice in the print magazine, it means there's related bonus material at the website, so check it out: www.unr.edu/silverandblue.

Graduate students shine at Nevada

By Roseann Keegan. Photos by Jamie Kingham '94.

College of Education Ph.D. candidate Darren Ripley '94, '00 M.A. has "flipped" the classroom model for his doctoral project. Ripley is the head of the mathematics department at the Davidson Academy of Nevada for profoundly gifted students.

Just a few years ago, graduation seemed light years away for College of Education Ph.D. candidate Darren Ripley '94 (mathematics), '00 M.A. (mathematics teaching). But in May, he will proudly cross the stage to accept his hard-earned doctoral diploma from the University of Nevada, Reno.

"I can't wait," says Ripley, head of the mathematics department at the Davidson Academy of Nevada on the University campus. "I remember when graduation was this little pin-prick of light. I couldn't even see the end of the tunnel. Now all of a sudden I'm here."

The University of Nevada, Reno offers 59 masters and 30 doctoral degree programs and counting. *Bloomberg Businessweek* has ranked Nevada's part-time MBA program as one of the best in the country. Executive Vice President and Provost Kevin Carman says the programs

will continue to strengthen and grow as the University reaches toward a "research university/very high" classification from the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

"The University is dedicated to excellence in original research, teaching, creative expression and intellectual leadership," Carman says. "With a full breadth of master's and Ph.D. opportunities and acclaimed faculty and facilities, students will find room to pursue educational and research pursuits in an accommodating environment that places a premium on academic excellence."

The environment of northern Nevada—from the lake, to the mountains and the desert—allows both graduates and undergraduates to study issues that are characteristic to the area, but translate throughout the world.

"For instance, there are many places in the

world where drought is a problem, so it puts us at the forefront, especially in the case of arid environments. Much of the research is showing that the world is going to become much drier, and of course some places are going to get wetter. We're already dry here—we can do research to study the climate change coming in decades," Carman says.

Built-in system of support

The graduate programs are also among the most affordable in the country, costing up to 80 percent less than other Tier 1 universities. Administrators are also working to strengthen the graduate assistantship program through grants and philanthropy.



“Students will find room to pursue educational and research pursuits in an accommodating environment that places a premium on academic excellence.”

—Executive Vice President and Provost Kevin Carman

“In order to attract outstanding graduate students, we have to provide competitive stipends,” Carman says. “We raised stipends each of the last two years and will continue working on this. We provide health insurance also, which not all universities offer.”

David Zeh, vice provost for graduate education and dean of the Graduate School, says the school’s mission is to “provide a 21st century graduate experience that values and promotes diversity, exploits the power and promise of technology, and prepares the next generation of Nevadans to help maintain the nation as the world’s leading economy, one that values initiative, hard work and personal integrity.”

Zeh says one of the distinguishing features of graduate education at the University is the large number of highly successful interdisciplinary graduate programs that span multiple colleges

and schools, and, in some cases, institutions. The Graduate Program in Hydrological Sciences includes faculty members from the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources (CABNR), the College of Engineering, the College of Science, the Desert Research Institute, and the U.S. Geological Survey. Similarly, the Molecular Biosciences Graduate Program is an interdisciplinary collaboration between CABNR, the College of Science and the University of Nevada School of Medicine.

“As a land-grant campus with a diverse mix of academic units and professional schools, we are uniquely suited to building strength and national competitiveness through collaboration,” Zeh says.

Graduate student support at Nevada extends beyond the laboratory, studio and classroom. The Graduate Student Association (GSA) works

in cooperation with the Graduate School and individual academic departments on campus to enrich the graduate student experience.

“Graduate programs require rigorous commitment and dedication to your field of study while balancing life and all that falls under it,” says GSA President RJ Boyajian ’14 M.A. (political science). “This is where the GSA steps in. We do our best to help graduate students balance their academics and work with support from our programs and services. Whether it is help getting to a conference to present research, finding furniture, purchasing a new computer or providing networking socials, the GSA is there to help.”

The GSA’s largest programs include the travel grant and awards week programs, which together provide graduate students more than \$300,000 in awards, Boyajian says. The GSA also represents graduate student interests at the department, University and Board of Regents levels.

The path to Ph.D.

From an intimate classroom at the Davidson Academy of Nevada, a free public school on the University campus for profoundly gifted students, Darren Ripley orchestrates an environment that is collaborative and engaging for his sixth-grade math students. As part of his Ph.D. dissertation, Ripley has employed a teaching technique called the flipped instructional method. In essence, the traditional classroom



ABOVE: Master's of social work student Morgan Nazemian '10, '14 with Bill Woolweaver, a Reno hospice patient. For her master's project, Nazemian is creating a volunteer program that would address the social problem of patients dying alone. RIGHT: Marcela Loria-Salazar '13 M.S., a second-year Ph.D. student in the atmospheric sciences program at the University, has been monitoring wildfire smoke plumes in California and Nevada. Her current work focuses on satellite remote sensing and the ability to measure near-surface air pollution downwind of wildfires.

lecture and homework model is flipped: students perform the bulk of their work in the classroom and learn the next day's lesson on their own at home.

"Flipping is a relatively new pedagogical paradigm," says Ripley, who has been teaching for 19 years. "The technical definition is that you take the content acquisition space, where the students gain information and knowledge, and you take that from the group space and you move it to the individual space."

He was inspired by a TED Talk by Salman Kahn of Kahn Academy, a nonprofit that provides free educational resources online.

"Technology has given us the ability to take our content and lectures and publish them online, rather than deliver it to a bunch of glassy-eyed, one-size-fits-all lecture style to these kids, who may or may not be ready for it or be in the right head space to learn," Ripley says.

"So rather than lecture at my students for an hour in the classroom and then they go home and flail around with the mathematics problems unassisted, they are working on

assignments in class and their homework is watching the lectures, reading and doing a few practice problems," Ripley says. "My classroom becomes open access—they have access to resource books, access to the teacher and to one another. I love it. Then I work in a more tutorial fashion and walk around and give help to students who need it.

"One of the coolest byproducts of it is that it gives me the opportunity to not only help my students where they're having a problem—immediately and in real time—but it also gives me the ability to give them feedback on the work they produced," Ripley adds. "I can grade their work, have it back to them and have conferences with them right then, rather than waiting for the work to be turned in several days later and grading it without the student present."

Working in concert with the Washoe County School District, Ripley is checking to see if there are significant differences in performance outcome as defined by the sixth-grade math CRT for students at Title I schools who have received a flipped learning experience versus

those who have not.

When he earns his Ph.D. this spring, Ripley will receive his third degree from the University. The Davidson Academy allowed him to reduce his full-time teaching schedule to 80 percent so he could complete his dissertation.

"The Davidson Academy has bent over backwards to make sure I'm successful and give me the resources necessary for me to be successful," Ripley says. "Dr. (Leping) Liu, my graduate advisor, has also been unbelievably helpful in this process."

Dignity in dying

In the Master of Social Work program, Morgan Nazemian '10 (human development), '14 (social work) is instrumental in helping the University meet its goal to integrate into the community by partnering with agencies to directly impact the health and welfare of vulnerable clients and patients. As an intern at Infinity Hospice Care, Nazemian was asked to create a volunteer program that addresses the



Graduate School Dean David Zeh.

The Graduate School at the University of Nevada, Reno

With a full breadth of master's and Ph.D. opportunities and acclaimed faculty and facilities, graduate students at the University of Nevada, Reno will find room to pursue educational and research goals in an accommodating environment that places a premium on academic excellence.

The University has more than 60 research centers and facilities, and dozens of state-of-the-art laboratories. The University is also home to the University of Nevada School of Medicine, where groundbreaking research efforts have been made in several areas of health, including cancer and heart treatments.

The University's research enterprise includes the Nevada Terawatt Facility, which houses the most powerful laser on a college campus, the Nevada Seismological Lab, one of the most sophisticated large-scale structures laboratories in the country where pioneering earthquake engineering is accomplished, and the Academy for the Environment, which focuses on issues of sustainability in the Great Basin and Lake Tahoe areas.

The Graduate School office is located at Fitzgerald Student Services Building, Room 225, (775) 784-6869.

To learn more and apply online, please visit www.unr.edu/grad/admissions.

social problem of patients dying alone. Wanting to look at the big picture, she took a step back and began to examine death in general.

"Some people will always be afraid of death, but the source of their fear shouldn't be about being alone," Nazemian says. "A 'good death' may mean something different to each and every person, and that is why this program is so important. Nobody knows how to die, because there is no right way. But whatever your way is, there should be the availability to have somebody by your side."

Nazemian has set out to create evidence-based training for volunteers to support hospice patients through their final hours. By collecting data from other hospice agencies, she is preparing a pilot program for Infinity Hospice Care.

"My graduate courses, particularly social work practice and program evaluation, have directly prepared me to develop and evaluate this program and training," Nazemian says.

Master of Social Work Program Coordinator Gloria Messick Svare notes that the profession of social work recognizes the bachelor's in social work as the entry-level degree, the master's in social work as the terminal practice degree, and the Ph.D. as the research degree. With a master's degree, social work graduates

provide leadership in a variety of teams and venues, such as community prevention and advocacy, supervisory and administrative roles in child welfare, aging services and behavioral health. With additional work leading to a clinical license, master's graduates can practice independently as psychotherapists.

"The master's degree combined with the clinical social worker license opens many additional employment opportunities in mental health and behavioral health settings," Messick Svare says. "The largest single employer of social workers, the Veterans Administration Medical Centers, only hire social workers with an MSW who have or are working toward their clinical license."

Breaking down barriers

Marcela Loria-Salazar '13 M.S. (atmospheric science) is a second-year Ph.D. student in the Atmospheric Sciences Interdisciplinary Graduate Program offered through the University's Department of Physics in partnership with the Desert Research Institute's Division of Atmospheric Sciences. Marcela has been working in the Atmospheric Turbulence and Air Quality (ATAQ) research group with Assistant Professor Heather Holmes since June 2014. In the



Photo by Jeff Dow

Students at the Graduate Studies Suite at the Reynolds School of Journalism, which provides a graduate student classroom and separate computer lab.

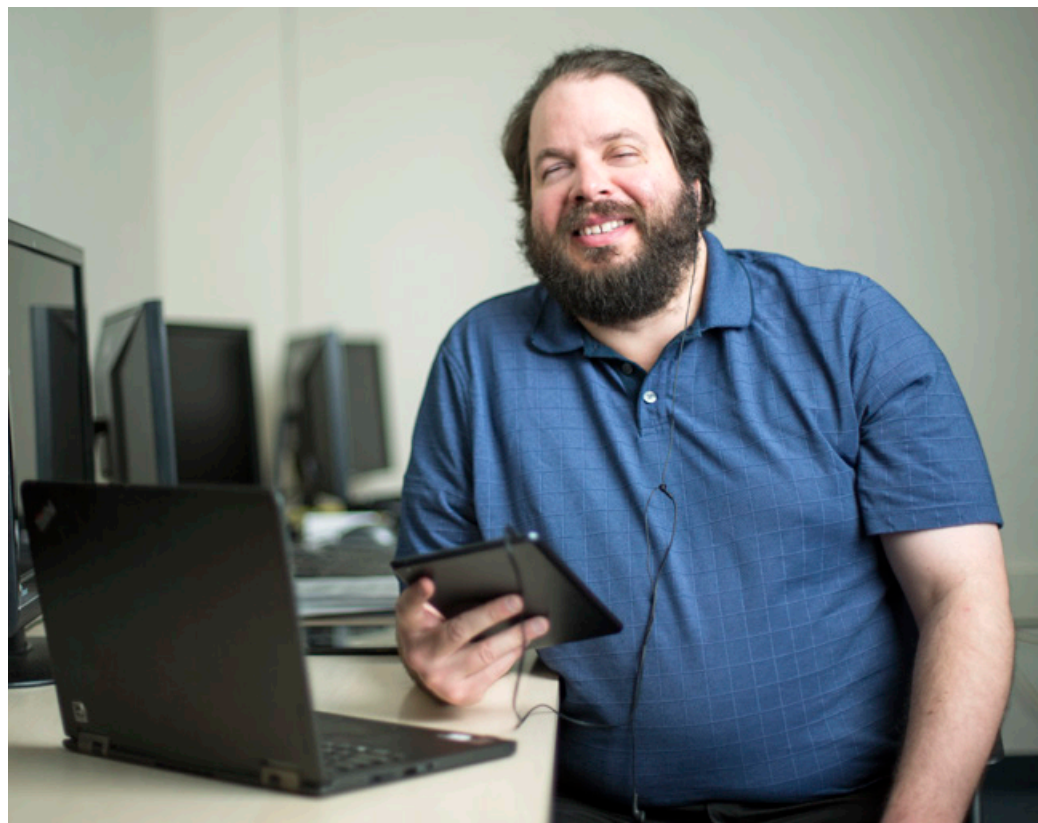
Graduate assistantships help offset cost of advanced degrees

The Graduate School at the University of Nevada, Reno is among the more affordable options for advanced-degree education in the country. Even further, there are a number of opportunities at the University of Nevada, Reno to help graduate students offset tuition and living expenses.

Graduate assistants perform a variety of duties from teaching undergraduate classes to grading papers and conducting research in laboratories. Teaching assistants receive special teaching-skills training through the Graduate School.

To be eligible for an assistantship, students must be admitted to a degree-granting program and be in good academic standing. The student must have an overall GPA of at least 3.0 and must be continuously enrolled in at least six graduate level credits throughout the duration of the assistantship. These positions are offered through various departments and are paid by grant, state or foundation funds and private philanthropy. Students interested in these positions must contact the department for specific requirements.

To learn more, visit www.unr.edu/grad/funding/graduate-assistantships.



ATAQ group, she has been able to incorporate the experimental work she did as a master's student with Professor Patrick Arnott into a spatial investigation of wildfire smoke plumes in California and Nevada. Her current work focuses on satellite remote sensing and the ability to measure near-surface air pollution downwind of wildfires.

Loria-Salazar presented her work at the American Geophysical Union annual meeting in December, showing results for the American and Yosemite Rim fires from August 2013. Her research has impacts on climate modeling, remote sensing and human health assessments. Her future research will include statistical and numerical modeling to simulate wildfire smoke plumes and their impact on urban populations in California and Nevada.

"My long-term goals are to teach general audiences how air pollution can diminish health, ecosystems and air quality," Loria-Salazar says. "I want to continue with a career in academia and mentor students about how the atmosphere works and help them to understand that science is not an intimidating field."

Loria-Salazar also aims to mentor women in the field of science.

"I really want to be an example for younger

women and demonstrate that they can achieve their goal in any field without feeling undermined or losing their identity by the heavy presence of men in the science fields," Loria-Salazar says.

"She is an extremely curious researcher, always asking difficult scientific questions and wanting to learn more about her field," says Assistant Professor Heather Holmes, Loria-Salazar's graduate advisor. "She also has a passion for communicating her results to others and teaching people about air pollution, weather, climate and how we as humans interact with the environment."

"In addition to her research, Marcela is a very active mentor for undergraduate students in the ATAQ lab and for both undergraduate and master's students in the Atmospheric Sciences program," Holmes adds.

Making technology and science accessible for all

William Grussenmeyer's Ph.D. graduate research is sponsored by a National Science Foundation graduate fellowship and involves exploring audio and tactile-based technologies



Left: Sponsored by a National Science Foundation graduate fellowship, William Grussenmeyer's Ph.D. graduate research involves exploring audio and tactile-based technologies to make touchscreen devices accessible to users who are blind. Above: College of Engineering Ph.D. candidate Ruchi Gakhar, the author of eight journal publications, is working to create new, affordable materials for harnessing solar energy for clean energy production.

to make touchscreen devices accessible to users who are blind.

Currently, adaptive techniques for drawing geometric shapes on tablets are limited to raised-line drawing kits, pins and rubber bands, verbal descriptions with sighted assistance or printed Braille diagrams.

"These techniques are expensive, time consuming and difficult to learn," says Grussenmeyer, who is legally blind. "I am exploring whether accessible gesture-based techniques allow for blind students to draw geometric shapes on tablet devices."

Grussenmeyer moved from the Sacramento area to pursue his Ph.D. at Nevada under the mentoring of Associate Professor Eelke Folmer, who has performed groundbreaking work on adaptive technologies for the blind. In 2013, Folmer won a competitive Google Research Award for his proposal, "An Indoor Navigation System for Blind Users using Google Glass."

"My ultimate goal is to make people's lives easier who are blind, especially using touchscreens," Grussenmeyer says. "They are really

new and very useful, and they make life easier for people who are blind."

Last summer, Grussenmeyer received a \$10,000 Google Lime scholarship for students with disabilities. His advisor, Folmer, along with other teachers in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering, wrote letters of recommendation.

"Google also invited us to visit their campus for four days and talk to people there," he says. "We also participated in a hack-a-thon. It was really fun."

Ruchi Gakhar holds an undergraduate and master's degree in chemistry and an additional master's in nanotechnology. Her research involves the use of nanotechnology—the study and application of extremely small particles that can be used across all the other science fields, such as chemistry, biology, physics, materials science and engineering—to create new, affordable materials to harness solar energy for clean energy production.

"I always wanted to work on something that is environmentally friendly," says Gakhar, the

author of eight journal publications. "Renewable energy, such as solar and hydrogen from water, are enormous sources of clean energy. We get a lot of energy from sun every day; we just need the right materials that could efficiently collect that energy and convert it into a useful form. There is a lot of science that needs to be done in this field. There are some materials that have been developed, but they are very costly and not very stable. We really need to develop newer materials or modify the existing ones to address these issues."

Gakhar says the research facilities at the University are well-equipped to accommodate her research, and the professors are supportive.

"The programs here are truly good," says Gakhar, who works as a graduate assistant in the Materials and Electrochemical Research Laboratory, which is outfitted with more than \$2 million in research equipment and is home to 12 graduate students and postdoctoral researchers. "At the lab, we have almost everything we need. We have so many instruments here that allow us to conduct cutting-edge



*Department of History Ph.D. candidate Amy Ghilieri '10 M.A., the recipient of the 2014-15 Russell J. and Dorothy S. Bilinski Dissertation Fellowship, has been comparing the first and subsequent editions of the 16th century witchcraft manual, *De lamiis et pythonicis mulieribus*. Ghilieri, the mother of a small child, says her advisor and professors have been flexible and accommodating to her role as a parent.*

materials research without having to travel to other facilities. My advisor, Associate Professor Dev Chidambaram, not only guides us by having timely discussions, but also provides us with the freedom to think and work independently. It's the perfect combination of how you want to work as a Ph.D. student."

Flexibility for families

Amy Ghilieri '10 M.A. (history), a Ph.D. candidate at the Department of History, is working on a dissertation that traces the bibliographic and cultural legacy of a 16th century witchcraft manual titled *De lamiis et pythonicis mulieribus*.

As the first illustrated book on witchcraft ever published, the text was an instant success and helped create the image of the witch in the early modern period. Ghilieri has located 334 surviving copies of the book and has consulted

98 of those copies. Comparing the books to one another, Ghilieri has broken them into 34 unique editions published between 1489 and 1669. The shift in content and appearance of these books suggests that the text took on a life of its own, with each subsequent publisher altering the content and layout of the book in an attempt to increase sales.

For her work, Ghilieri was the recipient of the 2014-15 Russell J. and Dorothy S. Bilinski Dissertation Fellowship. She was invited to present her dissertation at the Sixteenth Century Society in New Orleans in October.

Ghilieri appreciates the interdisciplinary nature of graduate studies at the University.

"I have been able to take so many classes in other departments," she says. "In fact, later today I am going to go bug someone in the English department because I need a reference for medieval disputation, and someone will probably let me know the right book for that."

As a parent, Ghilieri says it would have been difficult to complete her studies at a larger university.

"I think there's a flexibility here that you just don't have anywhere else," Ghilieri says. "I have a small child; I can't move to Italy or Germany for a year to do archival research, and people were willing to work with me on that. It's also a small community here. There can be drawbacks to that, but I wouldn't have been able to go to a huge school with a small child and expect to have the kind of flexibility I've been given here at Nevada. It just never would have happened."

"Thank you, Nevada," Ghilieri adds, exhaling. 

LOOK ONLINE

To see videos of Darren Ripley's at-home lectures, please visit: www.unr.edu/silverandblue.



Optimize Fellow Kyle Basler-Reeder completed an internship with ExxonMobil, where he was offered a full-time position following graduation.

California schools and the Colorado School of Mines. Offering qualified students an incentive has, I believe, proven to be effective in them choosing Nevada.”

Geophysics Professor John Louie says Optimize’s gifts have supported graduate students in the Seismological Lab for several years, including full stipend and tuition support for the Optimize Fellows. In recent years, the gifts have also provided partial support for all grad students in the lab, particularly for the “student responsibility” portions of course fees and other fees.

“Optimize’s support has been crucial in our ability to attract top-quality students to our graduate programs and graduate them in a timely way,” Louie says.

The current Optimize fellow, Kyle Basler-Reeder, says the fellowship has given him the opportunity to pursue a geophysics graduate degree in the setting of his choice, as well as access to the University’s Technology Transfer Office, which provides a quick and easy avenue to commercialize software.

“I have been able to pursue my degree in the fascinating geologic setting of the Walker Lane,” says Basler-Reeder, who completed an internship with ExxonMobil, where he was offered a full-time position following graduation. “The fellowship further incentivizes potential students by offering the freedom to choose their research topic and a monthly stipend that is competitive on the international level. I personally opted to accept the fellowship for a chance to work with Satish on technology that could potentially be utilized by Optimize in the future. It has been very rewarding to work with him. Satish brings a real-world perspective to my project that makes it a lot more than just an academic pursuit.”

To learn more about supporting the College of Science, please contact Char Hagemann, director of development, (775) 682-8791 or chagemann@unr.edu.

—Roseann Keegan

Optimize founders support the next generation of scientists at Nevada

As graduate students at the University of Nevada, Reno, Bill Honjas ’93 M.S. (geophysics) and Satish Pullammanappallil ’94 Ph.D. (geophysics) formed Optimize, a company that produces software and provides services to the geophysical, geotechnical, engineering and geothermal communities. The company began its life on the University campus under the auspices of the Nevada Applied Research Initiative, and has since grown to include offices in Reno and Las Vegas.

As the company continues to expand, both Pullammanappallil and Honjas have made it a priority to give back to the University of Nevada, Reno. Since 2009, Optimize has supported the Optimize Graduate Fellowship in the College of Science, which provides fellowships every year to University graduate students conducting research in the area of

geophysics.

“Our motivation to start the Optimize Fellowship was to give back to the University,” Pullammanappallil says. “What better way to do that than to fund motivated students as they work towards their graduate degree? Having been graduate students, we know being able to concentrate on research without having to worry about finding a source of funding can be a big plus. Industry benefits from the research carried out by the students and so does Optimize as we are able to keep abreast of the latest developments in our fields of interest as well as be involved in cutting edge research.

“We felt the fellowship was a way to attract bright undergraduates to come to the University for graduate school,” he adds. “We compete with schools like Stanford, the University of

“Optimize’s support has been crucial in our ability to attract top-quality students to our graduate programs and graduate them in a timely way.”

—Geophysics Professor John Louie

Photo by Theresa Danna-Douglas



NevadaFIT expands to all colleges to drive student success

The transition to college can be overwhelming, even for the best high school students. But 325 incoming freshman at the University of Nevada, Reno were better prepared for the 2014-15 school year after embarking on a five-day boot camp in August that had them studying, taking classes and exams and attending lectures from morning to night. The University hopes to nearly double student participation in the program by fall 2015.

The boot camp, an intensive academic preparation program named NevadaFIT, offers a glimpse into the University's rigorous academic expectations and college life. The optional program, which may sound grueling, is designed to help students more easily make

the transition and prepare for success. The program was expanded on campus this year after the success of BioFIT, which was conducted for incoming biology majors in 2013.

"Academic boot camps dramatically increase academic performance and student success rates," says Kevin Carman, provost and executive vice president. "It's exciting to see students recognize and embrace the hard work needed to be successful. Students who go through boot camp are much more likely to graduate in their major. We give them tools for success."

NevadaFIT includes eight separate boot camps spanning the breadth of the University, from atmospheric sciences to veterinary sci-

ence, from engineering to neuroscience, from business to journalism. They all use the same basic program concept, although customized for each college. Each program hosts sessions on topics that reach across students' majors, including sessions on financial planning, study skills and student conduct. All NevadaFIT participants are also paired with "pack leaders," upperclassmen who excel in the corresponding major.

"We wanted to allow some latitude this year for the colleges to adapt the program to meet their needs," Carman says. "Each college had their camp anchored on a course, such as Engineering 101 for the College of Engineering. It may not be 101 for other camps, such as for



Photos by Theresa Bama-Douglas



Before the 2014-15 school year kicked off, 325 incoming freshman at the University of Nevada, Reno took part in NevadaFIT, which includes eight separate academic boot camps spanning the breadth of the University. The University plans to increase the number of participants for the 2015 boot camps to 600 students and is seeking philanthropic support to offset a portion of fees for students who qualify for need-based financial aid.

journalism or business or health sciences. The main goal is to help build student success.”

The program simulated an exam week and provided students a chance to see how to balance academics with social activities at the University. The students lived together in the same residence hall during the program. From 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. they attended classes, worked in study groups and took exams.

The ScienceFIT program at the College of Science hosted 81 students this year, up from last year’s 48 participants. Dale ’67 (metallurgical engineering) and Lala Placey have generously supported the program for the past two years.

“Dale and I are happy that so many students were involved in the program, and that the retention rate for participants is so high,” Lala says. “We hope for continued program success. Dale values the education Nevada provided and wished to show his ongoing support

for its engineering and science programs. We thought the boot camp was a great way to do this. We like the information, encouragement and opportunity the program provides.

“The previews offered of the college experience, the early identification of goals and expectations, as well as the tools provided for management, all assist in guaranteeing a positive outcome for the participating student,” Lala adds.

Christina Cho, director of the program for the College of Science, emphasizes that the FIT camps are not a remedial program to help students catch up.

“It’s for all students, regardless of their academic preparedness from high school,” Cho says. “They learn very quickly that freshman year of college is not the 13th grade. The FIT academic boot camp flattens the learning curve in making the transition from high school to college. We’ve had so many people

tell us they wish they had this sort of program to help them get ready for their freshman year.

“After you have experienced what a week of lectures, homework assignments and exams at the University are like, you’ve learned what works and what doesn’t work to be successful academically. I’m confident that students who participate in the program will feel more confident and comfortable starting their first year of college,” Cho adds.

The University plans to increase the number of participants for the 2015 boot camps to 600 students and is seeking philanthropic support to offset a portion of fees for students who qualify for need-based financial aid. If you are interested in supporting NevadaFIT academic boot camps, please contact Crystal Parrish, director of corporate and foundation relations, at (775) 682-6023 or cparrish@unr.edu. [N](#)

—Mike Wolterbeek ’02 and Roseann Keegan



10 things to know about the University Master Plan

A campus that has seen the addition of several new significant and transformational facilities during the past several years is preparing for continued development throughout the next 10 years. The University of Nevada, Reno's Master Plan envisions for 2014-2025 an even more dynamic campus to serve the University's growing enrollment, anticipated to reach 22,000 students before the year 2021. The Master Plan was unanimously approved by the Nevada System of Higher Education Board of Regents at its Dec. 4 meeting in Las Vegas.

"Collaboration was a hallmark of the year-long planning process, and this included collaboration with the City of Reno and the Regional Transportation Commission," said University Executive Vice President and Provost Kevin Carman, who led the process.

The planning process spurred new concepts with broad and positive implications for the region. While the previous plan forecasted campus growth to the east, the new Master Plan sets a unified vision for growth to the south, with development complementary to the University extending to downtown Reno.

"We are invested in the plan and extremely pleased with the results this collaboration has produced," City of Reno Manager Andrew Clinger '95 (accounting) said in remarks at the Regents' meeting. "The University's Master Plan

is the first step in implementing the University town vision."

The 116-page Master Plan document reviews a range of planning elements that contribute to the University campus and neighborhood of the future. Here are 10 highlights of the 10-year Master Plan:

1. ENVISIONS THE CAMPUS GATEWAY PRECINCT AND UNIVERSITY DISTRICT

This vibrant retail- and academic-oriented neighborhood center will be developed primarily by the University and will extend campus life to the south of the current campus, in the area between campus and I-80.

With private, mixed-use development complementary to the University—such as University-related housing and retail offerings—the University District will create a safe area between I-80 and downtown. The Reno City Council has already taken action to establish boundary changes to support this development concept.

2. ADVANCES THE GOAL TO ACHIEVE "RESEARCH UNIVERSITY/VERY HIGH" CLASSIFICATION

The Capacity Study is a data-driven assessment of the infrastructure needed to serve a growing student enrollment. The Master Plan incorporates this study, including the pre-

dicted need for space dedicated to classrooms, laboratories, faculty offices and administrative services. The Master Plan also works toward the University's goal to achieve a "RU/VH" classification, a process administered by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

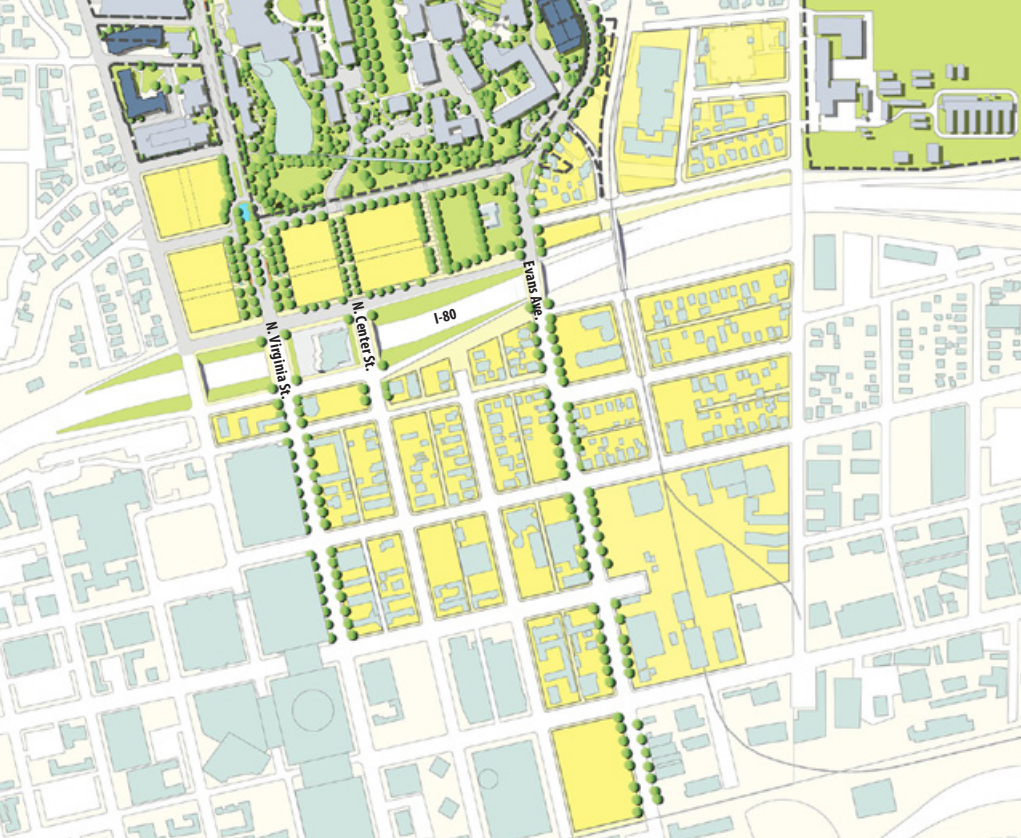
3. IMPROVES TRANSPORTATION, CIRCULATION, MOBILITY AND SAFETY AROUND AND WITHIN CAMPUS

Collaboration with the Regional Transportation Commission of Washoe County (RTC) resulted in proposed transportation and pedestrian improvements around campus. The RTC has already committed \$1.1 million for development of the Virginia Street Transportation Corridor project, including engineering and environmental studies. The RTC will oversee the process by which public input will be further solicited on the project. The Master Plan also envisions improved entry points to campus from both Virginia Street and Evans Avenue.

In addition to considering plans for pedestrian and bike traffic on campus, the Master Plan directs development of a separate parking plan to address future capacity needs.

4. IDENTIFIES SEVEN "NEIGHBORHOODS ON CAMPUS"

These Campus Precincts, or "neighborhoods," starting from the north, are Bio-



Development complementary to the University is envisioned extending from campus to downtown, with improved campus entry points and better connections to public transportation. Rendering by Timothy Wells.

- **Campus Character:** To foster a sense of place.
- **Connectivity:** To develop integrated, multi-modal mobility characterized by efficient transportation and safe pedestrian experiences.
- **Campus in the City:** To integrate the University and the city.
- **Growth and Change:** Considers near- and long-term development.

The planning process involved more than 150 stakeholders representing faculty, staff and students as well as business, elected officials and interested citizens. Versions of the plan were shared with faculty and staff to solicit input. Moving forward, Carman acknowledged the importance of input from campus stakeholders for continued participation, clarification and updates. A committee of University and community stakeholders will be established to monitor implementation of the plan.

Is it tangible? Carman points to several elements of the vision already taking shape, including work under way on the University of Nevada, Reno Innovation Center downtown at 450 Sinclair St., the commitment by the RTC of \$1.1 million for development of the transportation corridor project, action taken by the Reno City Council to foster development of the University District and designs being initiated for new engineering and fine arts buildings.

“This plan demonstrates the University’s commitment to being recognized among the nation’s premier research universities, and contributing to the renaissance of our region,” said University President Marc Johnson. “I am deeply appreciative and proud of what has been accomplished by our faculty, staff, students and constituents. This period of momentum is truly a shared achievement.”

LOOK ONLINE
To view the Master Plan document visit: www.unr.edu/provost

Medical, Physical Fitness, Mid, South, Gateway, Agriculture and Residential.

5. PROPOSES SEVERAL NEW BUILDINGS

Among the projects proposed are important new buildings for engineering, business and fine arts.

6. UNDERScores THE COMMITMENT TO A HEALTHIER COMMUNITY

It further outlines plans for the previously announced E. L. Wiegand Fitness Center and the Indoor Athletic Facility projects.

7. ENVISIONS AN INCREASINGLY VIBRANT RESIDENTIAL LIFE ON CAMPUS

In Fall 2014, University residence halls housed 66 percent of new freshmen and 17 percent of the total undergraduate population. Comparisons with peer institutions led to a goal to accommodate 80 percent of new freshmen and 25 percent of the total undergraduate student body. After completion of the 2014-15 academic year, Lincoln and Manzanita Halls will transition to another use and no longer be used for student housing. In response to these factors – plus a growing student enrollment – an aggressive plan for construction of new residence halls is being developed.

8. REFLECTS A COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABILITY

With more than 170 buildings and 341 acres of managed landscape and roads, the campus requires a significant commitment to resource

management. Based on a space-needs analysis and informed by the 2014 Capacity Study, categories with the greatest need for additional space are research, office and physical fitness. The University intends for all new buildings and major renovations to meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver certification criteria when feasible.

9. MAINTAINS THE HISTORY, BEAUTY AND CHARACTER OF CAMPUS

By respecting the trees, historic buildings and small-campus feel, the University campus will continue to make a strong first impression and create lasting memories.

10. IS FRAMED BY THE UNIVERSITY’S STRATEGIC PLAN

Also approved by Regents on Dec. 4, the University’s Institutional Strategic Plan 2015-2021 builds on three core themes of learning, discovery and engagement. Seven key drivers are further identified to support these themes, and these drivers set a framework for the Master Plan:

- **Learning Landscape:** To encourage access and innovation in teaching and learning, both inside and outside the classroom.
- **Student Experience:** To create a small-college feel within a large University context.
- **Innovation Platform:** To promote research, collaboration and entrepreneurship, both on and off campus.

–Jane Tors ’82



(1)



(2)

Photos by David Calvert



(3)



(4)



(5)



(6)



(7)

Foundation Banquet

Nearly 700 guests were in attendance at the 33rd annual University of Nevada, Reno Foundation Banquet presented by the E.L. Cord Foundation Sept. 24. Generous support for the event was also provided by the Peppermill Resort Spa Casino, The Thelma B. and Thomas P. Hart Foundation, Barrick Gold of North America, AJC, NV Energy, Lewis Roca Rothgerber and McDonald Carano Wilson.

(1) This year's speaker, John Kao, chairman and founder of

the Institute for Large Scale Innovation, advising government and multinational companies on innovation strategies.

(2) Gerry Roberts '68, Sarah Roberts and Terry Oliver '71.

(3) Brian and Nancy Kennedy, and Diane and Leo SeEVERS.

(4) Nancy Telliano '96, '06 MACC, Sara Lafrance '73, John '05 and Kristina Tennert.

(5) Outgoing University of Nevada, Reno Foundation Chair Bret Coleman '84.

(6) Mary Kay Knobel '88 and Barbara Hall.

(7) Kelli Newman '87, '88, Mark Liparelli '87, '93 M.S. and Issha Casagrande.

(8) Burt Scott, Leigh Ann Scott, Katie Morrissey, Kelly Creighton '77, Ken Creighton '75, guest speaker John Kao, Jerry Enneking, Roxie Enneking, Jerry Smith '03, Sharon Smith and Joyce Morrissey '88.

(9) University President Mark Johnson and Karen Penner-Johnson.

(10) Alex Benna, Chrissy Menicucci '86, Chris Benna, Edna Benna, Steve Benna '75 and Karen Benna '96.



Photo by Theresa Damm-Douglas



Photos by Theresa Damm-Douglas



Davidson Philharmonic

The Davidson Institute for Talent Development, in conjunction with the Reno Philharmonic Association and the University, held an encore performance of Davidson Fellow, cellist Nathan Chan, following a concert at the Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts. The encore and reception was held in the Mathewson IGT Knowledge Center Nov. 16.

(1) Samuel Chan, Rena Link, Nathan Chan, Laura

Jackson, Tim Young of the Reno Philharmonic and Mark Herron of the Davidson Institute.

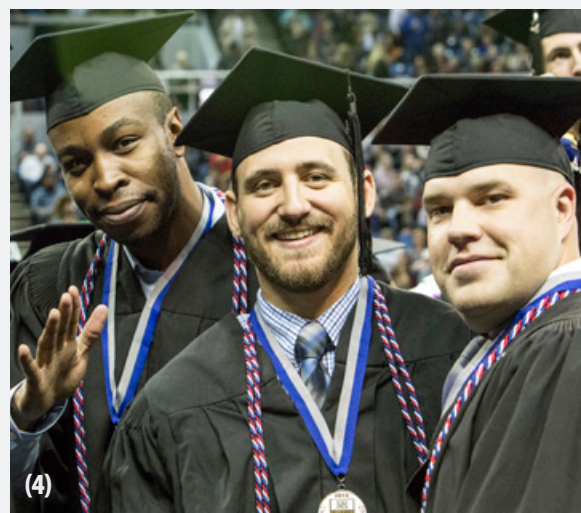
(2) Lisa Dayton, Annette Bidart '88, University President Marc Johnson, Carol Franc Buck and Linda Nicoll.

(3) Davidson Fellow Nathan Chan delivers a stunning encore.

(4) Sandi Rafealli '68, Karen Penner-Johnson, Deena and Jim Behnke.

LOOK ONLINE

For more photos from all of our events visit: www.unr.edu/silverandblue.



Winter Commencement

The University of Nevada, Reno held its Winter Commencement ceremony Dec. 6 and conferred 1,094 bachelors degrees and 381 masters and doctoral degrees during the ceremony at Lawlor Events Center.

(1) Engineering and education students proudly celebrate their achievement.

(2) Graduate Trevor Jones '14 and his father Keith Jones '85 were both students of Professor Dan Taylor.

(3) Manos Maragakis, dean of College of Engineering, and daughter Diana Maragakis '14.

(4) Jeremy Schader '14, Zack Totans '14 and Martin King '14.

Arentz Center for Student Success Luncheon and Rededication

Initially established in 2000 by Samuel S. Arentz III and family, the center, located in the Paul Laxalt Mineral Engineering Center, has been renovated to

better utilize the space for students' use. It was rededicated at a luncheon event Oct. 24.

(1) Student Recruitment Coordinator Elizabeth Ball '97 M.A. with Sam Arentz '68.

(2) Joel Lenz '80 and Mary Korpi represented Newmont Mining Corporation.

(3) Nevada Copper's Tim Arnold, Rita Menesini, and Jamie Loyola '12, with Director Russ Fields '74, '85 MBA.

(4) (Florence) Ann Burgess '69, Kathie Priebe and Mary Catherine Arentz.



(1)

Photos by Theresa Danna-Douglas



(2)



(3)



(1)



(2)

Photos by Theresa Danna-Douglas



(3)



(4)

Nevada Writers Hall of Fame

The 2014 inductees of the Nevada Writers Hall of Fame were honored at an event Nov. 13. They were selected based on their body of work, critical recognition, and strong connection to Nevada through the themes of their writing or residence in the state. The Nevada Writers Hall of Fame also recognizes substantial achievement in emerging writers with the Silver Pen Award.

(1) Alicia Barber received the 2014 Silver Pen award. Shown

with Patty Cafferata, Steven Harris, assistant dean of libraries, and Brent Boynton.

(2) English lecturer Gailmarie Pehmeier-Henry, inductee Shaun Griffin, Associate Professor Christopher Coake and Stephanie Laver.

(3) William Chrystal, Ronald '78, '81 M.A. and Susan James '80, '83 M.A. with Peter and Karen Barber.

13th Annual Gala Ski Ball

Held Nov. 6, the event benefits the University of

Nevada, Reno Ski Team, Winter Sports Club and honors Sierra Nevada Ski Families.

(1) Members of the Winter Sports Club from the past five years.

(2) Steve Trollpe, Randi Thompson and Greg Mason.

(3) Ronald '54 and Patty Myers '57, Bobby Ramsey '52, Phyllis Ross, Jane Murdock '54 and Allan Ramsey '55.

(4) Rich '66 and Sue Stout with Vice President of Development and Alumni Relations John Carothers.



Trailblazer
Foundation board chair
Philanthropist

Mary Simmons

'78 (accounting)

I have learned to never turn down an opportunity. There are people who might hesitate when presented with a new challenge, but I think it helped my career at various times whenever I took on jobs that didn't seem very glamorous at the time. One such time was when a job opened for the assistant treasurer of shareholder relations at NV Energy. They came to me because I had spent a significant amount of time working to understand the department during an audit that I performed when no one else wanted to do it. My time in shareholder relations was one of the best jobs I ever had. When you work with the people who are investing in your company, you realize how responsible you are to them. They look to you to take care of their investment. It gave me a whole different perspective of the corporate world.

With a background in accounting, everyone thinks you're going to be in the corner working with numbers. But understanding how a company works from a financial standpoint will give you a solid foundation for many careers. Over the past 29 years with NV Energy, I've had nine different job titles and I credit my financial experiences for enabling me to take on those positions. In fact, when somebody asked if I would like to be the vice president of external affairs, I thought, "That doesn't sound like me at all." But, it's been one of the most fulfilling jobs I've had and I really enjoy being involved in the community. It ended up being a better fit than I had imagined.

When I was offered the position of director of water policy and planning, I thought I was being demoted. I thought, "I know cash flow, not water flow." But it turned out to be one of those great opportunities again because I learned so much and worked with a great group of people who were so dedicated. I learned a lot about the water business, which is very interesting and a lot more complicated than it looks.

In my current position, I've had a lot of people say to me, "I want a job like yours. How did you get that?" I just say, "Well, I didn't plan on having this job." Your career is going to take whatever

path it's going to take, but you have to look for the opportunities.

You also have to develop your management skills. Develop your ability to understand things and trust yourself. If you don't understand something, the person sitting next to you probably doesn't understand it either. They're just hesitant to ask the question. Sometimes you might ask the "dumb" question. But I've been told many times, "You know, I was wondering the same thing but I didn't want to ask." Don't be afraid to ask questions. That's how you learn. You want to ensure you understand what's going on before you make decisions or agree to be a part of something.

I feel like the University gave me a really great background. It's funny; I would be in some of my business classes and think, "I am never going to use this." But once I was the controller for NV Energy, I thought, "Now I get it. I didn't realize that I would be putting this to use!" You're in college and you have to take accounting theory and you think, "Really? Accounting theory?" Then you find yourself using it. At one point I took sociology and logic instead of philosophy, and I think that served me really well. It's all about taking steps to make decisions and understanding something well.

I had some outstanding professors at Nevada. Nazir Ansari was a great influence. His class was one of the hardest, but one of the most fun and engaging classes I ever had. You had to step out of the box a bit and really think. It was a really important lesson that everything we were learning was a part of something much bigger. When you go out into the world, you're not going to have a textbook or something all laid out for you. You have to think about how to use your skills and how to solve problems and how to be successful.

While I was still a student, I interned for Kafoury, Armstrong & Co. They hired me full time after graduation while I studied for the CPA exam. At the time, there weren't many women in accounting, which has completely turned around now. Sometimes people think it must

have been difficult, but really it was a time when I think people were recognizing that women were and are a great asset in the workplace. So I never had any issues with being a woman in my field. I had a lot of opportunities at Kafoury, Armstrong & Co. If you worked hard and did the right things, you kept moving up. I also had the privilege of working with Felicia O'Carroll '76 (accounting). She was a role model for me.

One of the most important lessons I ever learned came from growing up in Ely, Nev. Growing up in a small town you learn how important relationships are, and I think that served me later as well. You need to figure out how to get along with people.

The best customer service lessons I learned were from working at Harrah's as a cashier and change attendant as an undergraduate. Bill Harrah was still alive and you were indoctrinated with customer service as soon as you sat down for your interview. Everything was for the customer. We always made sure we were paying attention to the customer and they were never left wanting for anything.

I've learned that to be successful in business you have to be a good listener and a good communicator. If you listen to the people you're working with, they probably have better and more ideas than you could ever come up with yourself. I always say I don't think I've ever had an original idea, but I think I'm pretty good at listening to other people and understanding what it is they're trying to accomplish. Then when you're in the position to help them make that happen, that's when you get the great results.

From a conversation in November with Associate Editor Roseann Keegan. Simmons is the 2015 Foundation Board Chair and vice-president of business development and community strategy at NV Energy. She is the secretary for NV Energy's charitable foundation and has been a University of Nevada Foundation Board trustee since 2013. She is on the board of trustees for EDAWN, the Reno Philharmonic and the Great Basin National Park Foundation. N



Photo by Jeff Dow

Partnership and generous gift propel specialized care for northern Nevada

The University of Nevada School of Medicine is embarking on a strategic effort to reverse the state's dismal health care delivery statistics and improve the health of all Nevadans.

The foundation of the school's strategic plan is the development of a full four-year academic medical institution with complete Reno-based medical education to complement its selective statewide outreach. This goal will be possible through enhanced and expanded relationships with hospital partners, significant investments by donors and support from community physicians.

Already, concrete steps have been taken to achieve this next stage of growth.

With the goal of improving the health of children in northern Nevada, the Nell J. Redfield Foundation has pledged funding support in the amount of \$900,000 over a five-year period beginning in 2015 for a distinguished pediatrician to serve jointly as Chair of Pediatrics at the School of Medicine and Pediatrician-in-Chief of Renown Children's Hospital.

"The health and wellbeing of children in northern Nevada has long been a priority for the Redfield Foundation," said foundation Director Jerry Smith '03 (honorary degree). "It is our hope that the partnership between the School of Medicine and Renown Health will improve the welfare of local children, our community's most vulnerable population."

The partnership grew from the need to greatly increase the number of physicians who practice in Nevada and was solidified by formal agreement in spring 2014. The collaborative goal to transform medical care and medical education in northern Nevada includes enlisting the critical support of physicians from Renown and the rest of Reno to participate as teachers at the medical school.

"Every great medical school has a deep and comprehensive relationship with a large, successful hospital and health system. The School of Medicine has that relationship in Reno with Renown Health," explained Thomas L. Schwenk, M.D., dean of the School of Medicine and vice president for the Division

The Redfield gift to establish a joint pediatrics chair/pediatrician-in-chief at the School of Medicine and Renown Children's Hospital will help promote the well-being of children in northern Nevada.

of Health Sciences, adding that the school has always benefited from a relationship with Renown that supports the training of residents in internal medicine, family medicine and psychiatry.

"Now we have an affiliation agreement that describes a far more robust relationship that will transform medical education in Reno and across northern Nevada. This agreement leads to the development of a full academic medical center, in which the medical school and Renown will create new clinical, teaching and research programs that will improve health and health care," he said.

The joint pediatrics position, to be filled by a qualified candidate in mid-2015 following a nationwide search, represents the leadership needed to expand significantly the undergraduate and graduate medical education programs at the medical school while simultaneously serving as the clinical half of the dual leadership model, directing the expansion of services and being held accountable for medical outcomes, quality, education and physician relations at Renown Children's Hospital.

"Generous support from the Redfield Foundation not only signifies their support of this crucial role within the medical community, but also their support of the vision of health care in our community," said Anthony D. Slonim, M.D., DrPH, president and CEO of Renown Health. "A joint chair of pediatrics and pediatrician-in-chief truly marks the launch of a new era in the collaboration between the School of Medicine and Renown, and will improve medical care for children in our community and region through continued innovation and research."

This joint position will lead to the recruitment of new pediatric subspecialists who will provide care not currently available for children in Reno and provide for the development of a training program for pediatricians in the future.

Another project in the works between

the two institutions is the integration of the Renown Institute of Neurosciences into the School of Medicine as its Department of Neurology, with the goal of teaching neurology and developing a training program for neurologists who are in very short supply in Nevada.

"We are also developing a new Office of Community Faculty to support the many community physicians who want to contribute to medical student teaching," Schwenk said. "We will also be integrating our clinical research programs and developing new support for scientists. The list of potential collaborations is almost endless, all of which will lead to new and better health care for Nevada."

A major part of the strategy for improving health and health care in Nevada is the development of robust clinical research programs. Building upon the medical school's history of strong basic science research, and the generous philanthropic support previously committed from the Nell J. Redfield Foundation and others, it will have the resources necessary to expand research with patients that will actually change the way medicine is practiced in Nevada.

During the past three decades, the Redfield Foundation has provided substantial support to the University, including the Redfield Campus, the William N. Pennington Health Sciences Building, the Nell J. Redfield Foundation Auditorium in the Davidson Mathematics and Science Center, the School of the Arts Act One project and the Morrill Hall restoration. The foundation has supported the School of Medicine Student Outreach Clinic and sports medicine fellowships and pledged significant support of research efforts at the School of Medicine.


With the support of the Nell J. Redfield Foundation, Renown Children's Hospital added 16 private inpatient rooms to better accommodate pediatric patients and their families. Facility improvements for The Pregnancy Center, a service dedicated to providing accessible, high-quality, culturally sensitive, pre- and postnatal care to northern Nevada's underserved, uninsured and underinsured pregnant women, were also made possible through additional support from the foundation. 



Photo provided by Renown Children's Hospital.

Kimberley Fernandez, 6, is being treated for cystic fibrosis in Reno, thanks to the availability of a pediatric pulmonologist subspecialist.

Pediatric subspecialist provides needed care to local child

Five years ago, Washington resident Monica Fernandez received a frightening diagnosis for her 1-year-old daughter, Kimberly. Doctors said Kimberly had cystic fibrosis, a life-threatening genetic disease that primarily affects the lungs and digestive system.

With no family in the area to help and a limited income, the single mother moved to Reno so that Kimberly could receive the specialized care she needs for survival.

Fernandez found help for her daughter at Renown Children's Hospital and Sonia Budhecha, M.D., a pediatric pulmonologist and former faculty member at the School of Medicine. A new partnership between Renown Health and the School of Medicine means more children like Kimberly will receive the care they need without traveling outside of northern Nevada.

Budhecha has helped both child and parent, addressing Fernandez's concerns and providing care for Kimberly.

"Having Dr. Budhecha close by is very helpful and convenient," Monica said. "I can call her day and night with any questions I might have and I can also set up an appointment with her any time I need. We moved here from Washington and this kind of care was not provided to me there. Her doctor was two hours away."

—David Perez, Class of 2015



Holly Cobon, a student in the College of Education's undergraduate teacher preparation program, tutors a kindergartener, Ian, at the E.L. Cord Center for Learning and Literacy.

the center utilizes course-based reading tutoring for elementary students by undergraduate education majors at the University. For outreach tutoring, the Reading Buddies program teams University undergraduates with local elementary students. The center is moving toward providing professional development workshops for teachers, as well as course credit certificates. Research programs are in development to prepare students to work with struggling readers.

Pennington became director in 2012 and restructured the tutoring programs to increase the number of students served from 80 to approximately 280. In addition to the in-house tutoring programs, Reading Buddies employs 10 grant-funded University student workers and one graduate student. Each student worker tutors four elementary students twice a week at a local elementary school, serving a total of 40 students.

Mary Czerwinsky '05 (elementary education), '12 M.Ed. (literacy studies), a second-grade teacher at Kate Smith Elementary School, says the Reading Buddies program has been an asset to the school.

"The Reading Buddies are always prepared and professional," Czerwinsky says. "They are able to work one-on-one with our struggling readers and give them the targeted instruction they need. The students enjoy the time that they get to spend with their Reading Buddy. We are so grateful to have this program at our school!"

Pennington says the center's services would not be possible without the generosity of donors. The E.L. Cord Foundation provided the original building fund, and has continued its long-term support for 50 years. Additional support comes from the Stern Family of Nevada Foundation and the Satre Family Fund. Internal funding is supplied by the University and the Nevada Board of Regents Service Program.

For more information please visit www.unr.edu/ccl.

E.L. Cord Foundation Center boosts literacy for local youth

Marie Tully's '10 M.Ed. (elementary education) first graders at Kate Smith Elementary School always look forward to the day when Reading Buddies from the University of Nevada, Reno stop by.

"The University's Reading Buddies were a great asset to my classroom last year," Tully says. "The students they worked with were always excited to see them and did wonderful work with their buddies. Each buddy came with a lesson that included reading, writing and games, and they made an effort to find books and activities that involved the students' interests. I am excited to have them back in my classroom this year!"

Reading Buddies is one of several programs at the E.L. Cord Foundation Center for Learning and Literacy at the University's College of Education. Since 1964, the center has focused on supporting children's literacy through research, teacher education and literacy services

for children.

The center serves University students and local teachers and children through an on-campus clinical tutoring program, an undergraduate teacher program and various outreach tutoring programs.

"Literacy has evolved and transformed in the 21st century," says Julie Pennington, center director and associate professor of literacy studies. "Our literacy support emphasizes the multiple modes and purposes of literacy from listening, speaking, reading and writing to digital and content area literacies. All of our programs infuse the Common Core State Standards, integrate literacy and technology, and provide teachers and students with the concepts and tools to be successful and engaged in their education."

The center is comprised of four major areas: clinic tutoring, outreach tutoring, research and professional development. For clinic tutoring,



Photos by Theresa Danner-Douglas



SUMMER ON CAMPUS: ACTIVITIES, CAMPS AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

The University of Nevada, Reno strives to leverage the knowledge, resources and talent on campus for the advancement of the community. The University hosts or co-sponsors a wide variety of summer youth camp programs and other family-centered activities to promote a culture of cooperation and connection. Here's a list of the top northern Nevada summer camps and activities for children, adults and families.

ARTOWN July 1 to July 31, a month-long celebration of the arts in Reno, including programs on campus. Call (775) 322-1538 or visit www.renoarttown.com.

CHILD AND FAMILY RESEARCH CENTER DAY CAMP June 15 to Aug. 7, for children ages 5-10. Call (775) 784-6762 or visit www.unr.edu/education/centers/cfrc.

DAVIDSON THINK SUMMER INSTITUTE July 11 to Aug. 1, for exceptionally gifted students ages 13-16. Call (775) 852-3483 or visit www.davidsongifted.org.

DEAN'S FUTURE SCHOLARS June 15 to July 31, an academic outreach program to encourage low-income, diverse and first-generation students to attend college. Contact Mariluz Garcia, (775) 784-4237 or mcgarcia@washoeschools.net, or visit www.unr.edu/education/centers/dfs.

ENGINEERING SUMMER CAMPS Various sessions June and July for students age 12-18. Call (775) 784-6925, email eboszak@unr.edu or visit www.unr.edu/engineering.

FLEISCHMANN PLANETARIUM AND SCIENCE CENTER Programs and exhibits

for all ages, call (775) 784-4812 or visit www.planetarium.unr.edu.

GIRLS MATH AND TECHNOLOGY CAMP During July for girls entering grades 7 and 8. Visit www.unr.edu/girls-math-camp.

KIDS UNIVERSITY June 15 to July 31, an educational day camp for children entering grades 2-8. Registration begins March 22. Call Extended Studies, (775) 784-4062 or visit kidsu.unr.edu.

MOVIES AT THE JOE Dates vary.

Call the Joe Crowley Student Union, (775) 784-6505, or visit www.unr.edu/studentunion.

NEVADA BOYS STATE June 21-27, a leadership and citizenship training program for qualified high school juniors. Call (888) 646-6594, email info@nevadaboysstate.org or visit www.nevadaboysstate.org.

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE (OLLI) Educational experiences for adults 50 and over. Call (775) 784-8053, email olli@unr.edu or visit www.olli.unr.edu.

READING AND WRITING

TUTORING Located at the E.L. Cord Foundation Center for Learning and Literacy for elementary students in first grade and up. Call (775) 784-4951 or visit www.unr.edu/dl/tutoring.

SMALLWOOD MULTIMEDIA BOOT CAMP June 15 - 25, rigorous instruction by University faculty and staff using multimedia equipment and software in the Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center @One Department for a select group of northern Nevada high school students entering their senior year. Following the camp, students

will continue to have access to the Knowledge Center's facilities and staff during their senior year of high school. Contact Becky Contos, (775) 682-5669 or rcontos@unr.edu, or visit imedia.unr.edu/knowledge_center/Smallwood.

PACK PICNICS ON THE QUAD Wednesdays from 6-8 p.m. July 8 through Aug. 12, free and family friendly, co-sponsored by the Nevada Alumni Association and Summer Session. Call (775) 784-4652 or visit www.summersession.unr.edu.

SUMMER OF DISCOVERY June 21-26, a one-week camp for Nevada high school students grades 8-10 with an interest in science. Call the High Sierra Area Health Education Center at (775) 682-5744, email rhonar@medicine.nevada.edu or visit www.highsierraahc.org.

UPWARD BOUND A free college preparatory program for qualified students. Call (775) 784-4978 or visit www.unr.edu/upward-bound.

WOLF PACK SPORTS CAMPS Includes football, baseball, basketball, golf, soccer, softball and volleyball camps; call (775) 784-4062 or visit www.unr.edu/sportscamps.



SUMMER CAMPS AT LAKE TAHOE

THE NEVADA 4-H CAMP is owned and operated by the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension. The camp sits on 32 shoreline acres on the south shore of Lake Tahoe and is available for rental year round. Contact the Nevada 4-H Camp at (775) 588-6943 or visit www.unce.unr.edu/4H/camp.

58TH ANNUAL LAKE TAHOE MUSIC CAMP for musicians entering grades 8-12, dates available at www.unr.edu/ltmc. Contact Chris Money at Extended Studies, (775) 784-4046 or cmoney@unr.edu.

NEVADA GIRLS STATE, June 29 to July 5, leadership and citizenship training program for qualified high school students. Contact Daela Gibson at (775) 224-0073 or nevadagirlsstate@gmail.com, or visit www.nevadagirlsstate.net.

4-H YOUTH EDUCATION AND LEADERSHIP CAMPS, various dates in July and August. Call the University of Nevada 4-H Program Office at (775) 784-6206 or visit www.unce.unr.edu/4H.

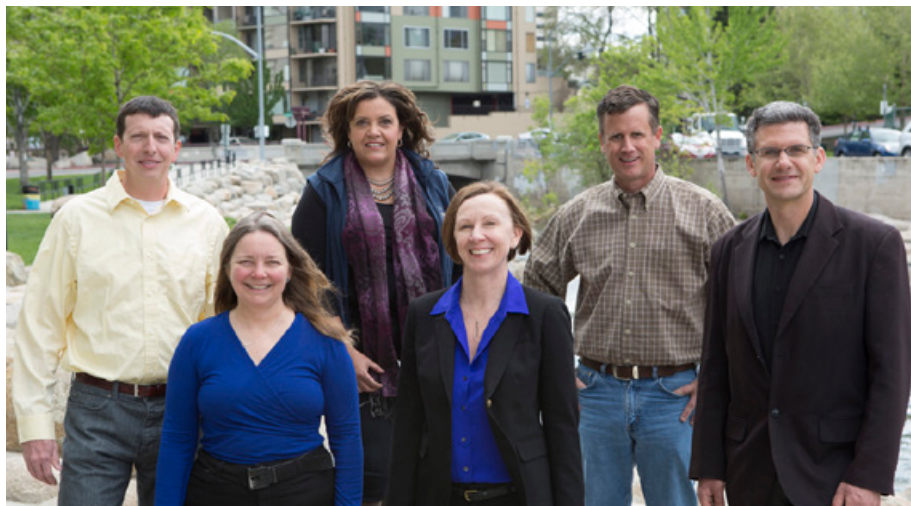


Photo by Theresa Dama-Douglas

The “Water for the Seasons” project team at the Truckee River, in Reno, Nev. BACK ROW: Matt Reeves '06 Ph.D., Staci Emm '96, Greg Pohll '91, '93 M.S., '96 Ph.D., Derek Kauneckis. FRONT ROW: Maureen McCarthy and Loretta Singletary. Not pictured: Richard Niswonger '01 M.S. and Michael Dettinger.

\$3.8 million project to help northern Nevada build future drought resiliency

Managing water in northern Nevada's Truckee-Carson River System requires local communities to balance urban, agricultural and ecosystem needs. Changes in historical climate trends are increasingly expected to make this balancing act more challenging.

A competitive grant totaling \$3.8 million has been awarded to the University of Nevada, Reno and the Desert Research Institute (DRI), in partnership with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), to integrate science and water policy research with extensive community outreach to identify the expected impacts of climate change and solutions for protecting valuable water resources throughout northern Nevada.

The “Water for the Seasons” project will focus on the Truckee-Carson River System as a model for snow-fed arid-land river systems across the American West. Funding includes \$1.8 million awarded by the National Science Foundation to the University and \$2 million awarded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to DRI and the USGS.

Water supplies in these regions are dependent on the timing, duration and form of win-

ter precipitation and spring run-off. Throughout much of the West, demand for these water supplies is increasing, and many are already stretched to capacity.

Recent climate extremes and trends – including continued drought, increased winter rain instead of snow, reduced annual snowpack, earlier spring runoffs, flash floods and higher temperatures – present challenges to agency water managers, local farmers and ranchers, urban developers and the general public. This project aims to identify new strategies for enhancing the resiliency of communities in northern Nevada to adapt to these challenges and changes.

A proactive approach

An interdisciplinary research team with expertise in hydrology, climate science, environmental policy, resource economics, public policy and community outreach will work closely with the region's diverse stakeholder communities to assess impacts of different drought scenarios and climate extremes; develop models of water supplies and demands

resulting from those scenarios; and develop policy options to help stakeholders evaluate and meet challenges posed by warming temperatures and unpredictable water supplies.

“Our goal is to be proactive so that the region can be better prepared to meet future water management challenges,” said Maureen McCarthy, interim director of the University's Academy for the Environment and the project's director. “Ultimately, we are looking for options that will protect our ecosystems, support economic development and enhance the livelihoods of our communities and agricultural producers.”

Collaboration with the community

A stakeholder advisory group, led by University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, will work closely with the research team and represent interests of tribal communities and municipalities; tribal, federal, state and local water managers; agriculture producers; state and regional economic developers; and federal, state, tribal and nongovernmental groups dedicated to ecosystems protection.

Loretta Singletary, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension professor and interdisciplinary outreach liaison, is co-principal investigator in the project with Derek Kauneckis, associate professor of political science, and Staci Emm '96 (journalism), Extension educator. Emm's programs focus on community development, natural resources and sustainability, while Kauneckis works in public and environmental policy. Singletary has 22 years of experience in Extension work, most of them in Nevada's communities.

“The project honors the University and Cooperative Extension's legacy of working in and with communities,” Singletary said. “It's what we do. We partner with scientists and commu-

nity stakeholders to better understand and address complex public issues such as adapting to climate change and managing water supplies, which don't always offer simple solutions."

Greg Pohll '91 (secondary education), '93 M.S. (hydrology & hydrogeology), '96 Ph.D. (hydrology), research professor of hydrology and hydrogeology and the project's principle investigator from DRI, will co-lead the modeling portion of the project.

Pohll, who has studied and modeled snow-fed arid-land river systems for nearly 20 years, will focus on the Truckee River and Lake Tahoe Basin system with three other DRI surface and groundwater experts, Associate Research Professors Justin Huntington '00 (environmental & natural resource science), '03 M.S. (hydrology), '11 Ph.D. (hydrology) and Matt Reeves '06 Ph.D. (hydrology) and Assistant Research Professor Seshadri Rajagopal '06 M.S. (hydrology).

"DRI is excited to be a part of the collaborative team to develop state-of-the-art computer models to predict how rivers and groundwater will respond to prolonged droughts. We expect these tools will help the team build sustainable solutions to adapt to a variable climate," Pohll said.


Opportunities for student research

Richard Niswonger '01 M.S. (hydrology) and Michael Dettinger, senior research hydrologists and the project's principal investigators from the USGS, will co-lead the climate scenario development and the modeling portion of the project focusing on the Carson River system. Dettinger is a leading expert in climate modeling and extreme climate scenarios such as the well-known USGS ARkStorm project. Niswonger is one of the lead developers of the

hydrology model that will be used for the study.

Additionally, Shane Coors, water resource engineer with Precision Water Resources Engineering, will utilize the new Truckee-Carson Planning Model to conduct operational modeling on the Truckee River.

Three post-doctoral researchers, two graduate students and eight undergraduate summer researchers will be part of the project team, engaging in hands-on learning and supporting all aspects of the project. The undergraduates at the University will be funded for summer research experience in association with the National Science Foundation's Research Experience for Undergraduates.

More information on the Water for the Seasons project will be available online at the University's Academy for the Environment website, <http://environment.unr.edu/academy>. 

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ONCE NEVADA. ALWAYS NEVADA.



Photo courtesy Wolf Pack Meats

USDA-endorsed *Wolf Pack Meats*, a leading research, education and extension facility of the Nevada Agricultural Experiment Station, provides University students with first-hand experience in all aspects of meat processing.

Wolf Pack Meats is currently at maximum storage and cooler capacity. The facility's harvest calendar typically takes three months to fill, but the calendar for 2014 filled in three days.

"Adding capacity to meet the needs of the ranching community is vital to our mandate as part of a land grant university, our ability to serve the needs of the meat industry and to regional economic development," says Mike Holcomb, general manager of Wolf Pack Meats.

Karl Baker, owner of Baker Ranch 38 miles north of Reno, says Wolf Pack Meats is "absolutely critical" to the small rancher. "It's the only USDA facility in the area where we can both harvest and process our steers for marketing to the Nevada consumer," Baker says.

To learn more about supporting Wolf Pack Meats and the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources, please contact Ralph Phillips, director of development, (775) 784-4390 or rphillips@unr.edu.

Bently Ranch gift to help Wolf Pack Meats expansion

Bently Ranch has made a \$150,000 gift to help Wolf Pack Meats expand its services to small ranches in Nevada and California.

Roseanne Keegan is an associate editor and senior writer for Development and Alumni Relations

A leading research, education and extension facility of the Nevada Agricultural Experiment Station, USDA-endorsed Wolf Pack Meats serves local ranches and enables students to receive first-hand experience in

all aspects of meat processing, from production to retail distribution.

The gift from Bently Ranch, which utilizes

Wolf Pack Meats monthly to process and dry age its beef, will provide additional cooler space at the Reno facility and help upgrade holding pens and livestock chutes to allow a more efficient flow of animals into the facility. The expansion will also increase the facility's capacity to train students in the meat industry and conduct research in meat science.

"We would like to see the Wolf Pack Meats facility grow and expand in its ability to serve and perform as a learning platform," says Bently Ranch owner Christopher Bently. "The busy facility not only provides a top-notch service to the Nevada agricultural community, but is a vital resource for local businesses."

Wells Fargo supports first generation students

The Wells Fargo First Generation Scholarship Luncheon Nov. 5 honored 21 scholarship recipients who represent the first generation of their families to attend college. The students receive an annual award of \$3,500 each of their four years of college. Since 1988, Wells Fargo Bank has provided more than \$1 million in support of Nevada students.



Photo by Theresa Danna-Bouglas

Back row: Kimberly Rubio, Vicente Gapuz, Fabiola Reyes, Elvira Rios. Third row: Phil Horrell, Vicky Howard-Hollis and Jodi Wright of Wells Fargo; Vice President of Development and Alumni Relations John Carothers, Jerson Valdez, Heather Gilmore, Lydia Doan and Mary Quiroga. Second row: Vice President for Student Services Shannon Ellis, Astrid Perez, Amanda Flores, Jeannette Martinez, Taylor Martinez, Patricia Vilanueva, and Chad Osorno, president of business and government banking group of Wells Fargo Nevada. First row: Heather Killam, Adriana Albarran, Jannet Roman and Wells Fargo representatives Debbie Fuetsch '84 and Amy Pogensee '97.

Local dentist gives back to hometown, alma mater

Longtime Reno dentist Peter Di Grazia '64 (pre-dental) and his wife, Sue, have established two scholarship endowments at the University of Nevada, Reno in appreciation for Di Grazia's Nevada hometown, alma mater and medical profession.

The Di Grazia Family University Scholarship Endowment will give preference to undergraduate students who graduated from Battle Mountain High School in Battle Mountain, Nev., where Di Grazia was born. The Di Grazia Family Scholarship Endowment for Health Sciences, to be funded through a future planned gift, will benefit students pursuing an undergraduate degree in community health sciences and interested in a professional degree in dentistry or medicine.

"We are very grateful for all of the mentors and close classmates I had at the University

and at Lander County High School," Di Grazia says.

Di Grazia, a second-generation Nevadan, was born in Battle Mountain, Nev., in 1939. At the University, Pete joined the ATO fraternity, the track team and the freshman basketball team coached by Jake Lawlor. After completing his pre-dental studies at Nevada, he attended the University of Oregon Dental School, where he met Sue. The couple married in Battle Mountain in 1965. Upon graduation, Pete joined the Army Dental Corps as a captain and the Di Grazias moved to Fort Lewis, Wash., for two years during the Vietnam War.

The couple returned to Reno in 1968 and Di Grazia opened his dental practice. Nevada Gov. Mike O'Callaghan asked him to serve on the Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners. Di Grazia was the youngest person to ever have



Photo provided by Peter Di Grazia

Peter Di Grazia '64 and his wife, Sue, have established two scholarship endowments.

served on the board and ultimately became its president. He was also the youngest president of the American Association of Dental Examiners.

To learn more about planned giving opportunities at Nevada, please contact Lisa M. Riley, Esq., director of the Office of Planned Giving, (775) 682-6017 or lriley@unr.edu.



Photo by Peter Walker

IGT backs the Pack in 2014

International Game Technology (IGT) has championed students at University of Nevada, Reno for more than 20 years. The company continued its generosity in 2014 with gifts to the IGT scholarships in business and computer

science, the IGT Peter Dickinson Memorial Fellowship in Engineering, as well as projects and programs across the campus.

"IGT is committed to the local communities where it does business," says Chrissy Meni-

University of Nevada, Reno alumni who work at International Game Technology gather to show their Pack pride.

cucci '86 (criminal justice), IGT's manager of corporate social responsibility. "IGT also encourages employees to be active volunteers and participate in community service projects."



Photo by Lee Palmer

University innovation center to spur autonomous systems development

With \$3 million from the Governor's Office of Economic Development Knowledge Fund, the University has established NAASIC, the Nevada Advanced Autonomous Systems Innovation Center, with the goal of creating unique industry-university partnerships to commercialize technologies in autonomous systems. This includes land-based, aerial and stationary robotic systems such as industrial robots, advanced manufacturing systems, driverless road vehicles and underwater robots.

"The vision for this initiative is to partner with the private sector to support innovation for advanced autonomous and manufacturing systems," said Manos Maragakis, dean of the College of Engineering. "This collaboration between our colleges and the business community will stimulate economic development with tremendous potential to become a hub of technology that will benefit the entire state."

NAASIC is a collaboration led by higher education that involves EDawn, the Governor's Office of Economic Development, the manufacturing industry and K-12 and higher education programs to enhance Nevada's workforce.

"This has tremendous potential to become a hub of technology that will benefit the entire

state," Maragakis said. "This is a true systemic approach to economic development. A number of agencies and organizations we already work with are coming together to generate a new level of engagement."

The University has more than a dozen faculty members across several departments and colleges, including engineering, business, geological sciences, cooperative extension and environmental sciences, who are contributing to the research, design, implementation and commercialization of advanced autonomous systems. The integrated effort is led by the College of Engineering.

"Our faculty expertise and interest is part of an innovation eco-system we are creating in our region," said Mridul Gautam, vice president for research and innovation at the University.

"Ultimately every aspect of what we do at the University is part of the effort; materials, software, communications, electronics, durable goods, the legal and social aspects of autonomous systems, detecting plant diseases

The College of Engineering introduced a new minor degree program in Unmanned Autonomous Systems in January 2014.

on arable land and even development of our seismic network – for firefighting, identifying earthquake faults and other environmental monitoring," Gautam said.

Lt. Col. Warren Rapp (ret.), previously with the Nevada Institute of Autonomous Systems, is the new NAASIC business director.



Lt. Col. Warren Rapp (ret.) is the new business director for NAASIC.

"From my previous perspective as program manager for northern Nevada UAS testing, the University is already known as an evolving leader in the UAV and autonomous systems fields of study," Rapp said. "From the inception of their minor degree program this year to supporting the testing efforts of new companies coming to northern Nevada, and now NAASIC, few universities across the country can match this commitment to success."

NAASIC will eventually be based in the University of Nevada, Reno Innovation Center, slated to open in June at Sinclair and Stewart streets near the Terry Lee Wells Nevada Discovery Museum.

–Mike Wolterbeek '02



Photo by Mike Wolterbeek

Student Dora Uchel demonstrates the navigation system that operates with a standard smartphone.

New assistive tools improve navigation for the blind

Research to develop an indoor navigation system for users who are blind received a boost last summer with a \$150,000 grant from Reader's Digest Partners for Sight Foundation.

The grant will help Eelke Folmer, associate professor of computer science engineering, and his research collaborators develop tools to adapt and integrate existing indoor maps on Google Maps for the navigation system, NAVATAR.

NAVATAR, which features an app that runs on Android smartphones as well as Google Glass, overcomes a number of the obstacles traditionally associated with indoor navigation systems for blind users. Unlike existing indoor navigation systems, NAVATAR does not require any instrumentation and relies on low-cost sensors available in smartphones and a digital map of the environment.

"Assistive technology is often prohibitively expensive for users who are blind," said Folmer. "Smartphones are considered one of the biggest assistive devices since the introduction of braille, as they feature cameras and powerful processors that allow for assistive apps that recognize currency, faces or street signs."

Folmer hopes to have both phases of the project complete and fully tested by the end of 2015, and he plans to make the NAVATAR app freely available to blind users everywhere. Folmer believes NAVATAR can address some of the larger problems facing the blind community such as a high unemployment rate or the fact that few blind individuals pursue college degrees.

—Kirstin Swagman



Photo by iStock

Statisticians predict how weather impacts baseball

An analysis of statistical data offers insight into how weather and, more specifically, temperature may impact baseball teams' performance. The published research project, "The Impact of Temperature on Major League Baseball," was published in *Weather, Climate and Society*, a journal of the American Meteorological Society.

Brandon Lee Koch '13 (mathematics), who conducted the research as a McNair Scholar at the University, worked alongside University mathematics and statistics professor Anna Panorska to complete the study. The two found that commonly referenced MLB statistics—runs scored, batting average, slugging percentage, on-base percentage and home runs—significantly increase, while walks significantly decrease, in warm weather compared to cold weather. The study also examined individual stadiums, offering insight into which stadiums are affected by temperatures the most and the least.

The study evaluated 22,215 games, span-

ning the 2000-2011 regular seasons. Analyses were performed on all MLB games, games played in the National League, games played in the American League and games played in 23 different MLB stadiums. Home and away teams' performances were analyzed separately for each population of games.

"It could be beneficial for managers of MLB teams to take the game-day temperature into account when setting their lineups," Koch said. "For instance, if a manager is having difficulty choosing between two players for his starting lineup, and one player is a more patient hitter and tends to draw more walks than the other player, the manager might benefit from starting the patient hitter in cold temperatures."

As portrayed in the 2011 film "Moneyball," the use of statistical data analysis plays a valued role in baseball.

—Nicole Shearer '03



Photo by Scott Lamberg

UNLV Associate Professor Jeff Shih; Nevada Lecturer Peggy Lakey '82, '91 M.S.; Nevada Department of Education Specialist Tracy Gruber '92, '94, M.Ed.; Nevada Associate Professor Teruni Lamberg; Nevada Associate Professor Ed Keppelman; UNLV Assistant Professor Travis Olson.

Statewide expertise + ongoing teacher support = improved math education

A statewide initiative is underway to improve math instruction and student achievement in Nevada. The Nevada Mathematics Project, a multi-agency collaboration, provides professional development for teachers throughout the state in the Nevada Academic Content Standards for mathematics.

The project, led by University Associate Professor of Elementary Mathematics Education Teruni Lamberg, focuses on the progression of mathematics learning from third through eighth grade curriculum by helping teachers develop a thorough understanding of the preceding grade and what will be taught in the following grade.

Last summer, Lamberg, along with a higher education project team, traveled to four sites around the state where they held week-long, professional-development workshops for teachers representing each school district in Nevada, including some private and charter schools.

"Every single part of this team gave valuable input into what the project should be," Lamberg said. "We didn't just share knowledge, we co-created new understandings of how to help Nevada students achieve in math."

During the workshops, teachers learned math from the perspective of a student. They spent time refining pedagogical skills through the Standards for Mathematical Practice by imple-

menting a whole class discussion framework.

"We are not reinventing mathematics in this program, but simply giving teachers many more options in how they present the content to the students," Jeffery Cramer, math and science coordinator at Northeastern Nevada

Regional Professional Development Program, said. "The more models we use, the more students we can reach."

The Nevada Mathematics Project includes representatives from the University of Nevada, Reno; University of Nevada, Las Vegas; Northeastern Nevada Regional Professional Development Program; Western Regional Professional Development Program; Nevada Department of Education and each of the state's school districts. The project is funded through the Nevada Science Partnership Grant through the Nevada Department of Education and would, by the end of three years, cover the entire Nevada Academic Content Standards for mathematics.

To learn more about the Nevada Mathematics Project, including the people involved, visit nevadamathproject.com.

— Nicole Shearer '03



Photo by Theresa Dams-Douglas

Preparing for college early

Nearly 800 Clayton Pre-AP Academy middle school students sported blue Wolf Pack T-shirts donated by the Nevada Wolf Shop at the fourth annual College Day pep rally Oct. 24. The energy-amped rally promoted enthusiasm for future learning.



Photo by Jeff Dow

ASUN is funding 21 internships with 12 local organizations to expand access to real-world work experiences for students.

disadvantaged students.”

University President Marc Johnson said he has never been at a campus where students support other students to the extent they do at the University.

“We want to offer all of our students a remarkable experience, and that means offering opportunities to work inside and outside the classroom and put their knowledge to work,” he said. “This contribution by students toward creating internship opportunities is impressive. These days, businesses are taking interns not only to get work done, but, more importantly, internships have become a two to three month interview process.”

– Nicole Shearer '03

ASUN invests in career development of students

The Associated Students of the University of Nevada (ASUN), the undergraduate student government organization, is investing in expanded internship opportunities, increasing the pool of real-world learning experiences for students and engaging with area businesses and organizations.

Coordinated with the University's Nevada Career Studio and with \$30,000 in ASUN funding, the Pack Internship Grant Program launched in October and supports 21 internships with northern Nevada businesses, non-

profit organizations and public agencies. The program partners with employers to develop mutually beneficial, substantive opportunities for University students, and it funds student wages at \$12 per hour for 120 hours.

“This is huge for the economic development of the area,” ASUN Vice President Alex Bybee said. “It helps to stem the outflow of innovative talent from the region, keeping those graduates here to contribute to the workforce. It also expands access to students, since unpaid internships currently exclude the most economically



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Photo provided by Greater Nevada Credit Union

Marching band grows in sound and numbers with Greater Nevada Credit Union's support

From 120 members in 2012 to 180 in 2014, the University's marching band, the Pride of the Sierra, has grown in numbers, support and spirit.

This year, the Greater Nevada Credit Union

continued its fundraising campaign, "It's Time to Support the Band." The fundraising drive entered its final year of a three-year pledge. The credit union has contributed \$20,000 each of the three years, and committed to a matching-

Gifts and donations through the Greater Nevada Credit Union, the University Foundation and the community have funded new uniforms, more staff members and an allowance for travel expenses for the University Marching Band.

gift program to contribute up to another \$15,000 annually.

"In addition to the pledge, we saw over \$50,000 in combined fundraising at the beginning of the season," Will Plenk, director of the marching, pep and symphonic bands and conducting instructor, said.

"The Greater Nevada Credit Union support and funding from the community has made so many exciting things possible," he said. "We have increased our visibility in the community, largely due to sponsored Greater Nevada Credit Union events. We are also able to travel more with the teams, going to UNLV this year and San Diego State last year."

To learn more about supporting the University Marching Band, a major ensemble of the Department of Music in the University's College of Liberal Arts, contact Kristen Kennedy, director of development, at (775) 784-6873; Greater Nevada Credit Union at (775) 882-2060; or donate online at supportnevada.unr.edu/MarchingBand.

—Natalie Savidge, '04



Photo by Chris Partridge

Commitment to civic engagement earns national designation

The University is one of 92 colleges and universities selected to participate in a national initiative on civic learning and democratic engagement. Designated as a Lead Institution by the Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education Association, the University will continue to encourage students' civic development through thoughtful community partnerships, engaging leadership opportunities and democratic participation.

The CONNECT Shuttle takes University students to and from organizations in the community to make community service and service learning more available to students.

"Civic engagement is a core value in higher education," Shannon Ellis, vice president of Student Services, said. "The University's recognition as a national leader in this field is a reflection of the quality of our current efforts and also our ongoing commitment to inspiring students to challenge themselves through leadership and service roles moving forward."

—Nicole Shearer '03



Photo by Theresa Dama-Douglas

Ponderosa Village held its grand opening Aug. 28 and offers 132 units for graduate and professional students.

Campus life: New housing for growing student body

As the University's student population continues to grow, so do the on-campus housing options available. The opening of Ponderosa Village this fall marked a new beginning for the many graduate students and their families who now call it home. Located on the east side of campus on Evans Avenue, the former site of University Village, Ponderosa Village is home to graduate and professional students from each college at the University, including the University of Nevada School of Medicine. Twenty-five percent of the occupants are international students.

Ponderosa Village offers 132 one- and two-bedroom units, each with modern appliances, efficient cooling and heating systems, wireless Internet and washers and dryers. The complex of six three-story buildings includes a separate community center with offices and common space for resident use.

Graduate student recruitment is an important component of the University's journey toward classification by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching as a "research university - very high." Ponderosa Village and the amenities offered assist with these recruitment efforts.

The project was completed through a public-private partnership. Balfour Beatty financed, constructed and owns the approximately \$20 million complex. The University is leasing the property to Balfour Beatty for 42 years and the University's Residential Life, Housing and Food Services manages the complex. At the end of the lease period, the University will own the complex.

Construction of Peavine Hall, a new sustainably designed residence hall, is underway at the corner of Sierra Street and 11th Street, north of Sierra Hall. The 400-bed residence hall will house primarily freshmen. Living on and connecting with campus in the first year at the University contributes to the likelihood that students will persist, re-enroll into their second year and ultimately graduate. Construction of Peavine Hall is funded through residence hall fees.

— Nicole Shearer '03

Faces on the Quad



Spenser Blank was named one of 25 national 2014 Media Fellows Scholars. A dual major in Spanish and journalism with an emphasis in strategic communications, Blank is the first student from Nevada to receive this scholarship which is awarded to undergraduate students studying mass communications, journalism, marketing or political science. Blank has completed internships with The Glenn Group in Reno and Cox Communications in

Las Vegas. In the 2014 spring semester, he participated in University Studies Abroad Consortium's program in Bilbao, Spain. Blank serves as assistant director of public and campus relations for the Associated Student of the University of Nevada and is a member of the University's Journalism Student Advisory Council, Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity and the Spanish Club. Blank credits the Reynolds School of Journalism and Center for Advanced Media Studies for providing a foundation for professional work. Blank will graduate from the University in May.

Caitlyn Adley, an ROTC Cadet and one of the Level Leaders at the University's Orvis Student Nurses' Association, was selected to represent the University at the 62nd National Student Nurses' Association annual convention in Nashville, Tenn., last spring. Adley has excelled academically at the University and was a top performer at last summer's ROTC Camp where she obtained the highest possible rating and had the highest physical fitness score for her cohort. Adley is an active volunteer at Wolf Pack football games. She organized and competed in CrossFit competitions and intramural activities in the region and on campus. As a community-service awareness project, Adley led an ambulance ride-along with REMSA. She served as the Army ROTC Liaison to the Reno Veteran's Guest House where she coordinated multiple events including a highly successful telethon fundraiser. She is also an active member of the Nevada Military Society. Adley graduated in December with her degree in nursing.



Patrick Nipay, a senior mechanical engineering student, is part of E-scholars, a group of 20 engineering students who received scholarships based on their academic achievements and interest in green energy. Nipay has worked as a tutor for the Trio Scholars Program for three years and also worked for Upward Bound tutoring high school students. He is currently assisting mechanical engineering assistant professor Emil Geiger in creating a tool that can help with algae biofuel research. He presented the preliminary project at the McNair Scholars Berkeley Symposium in August. He is working on a capstone project for a child with cerebral palsy. His team, Pack in Motion, is creating an adjustable, custom chariot that can be used for all terrains. He has been a student ambassador at the University since his sophomore year, and has held several leadership roles in his fraternity, Phi Delta Theta.

—Natalie Savidge '04



Photo by Theresa Danna-Douglas

Kevin Melcher '79, '81 M.S., Elko resident and member of the Nevada Board of Regents, rings the original University of Nevada bell.

Celebrating the 1874 birth of the University ... in Elko

The University Preparatory School – precursor to the University of Nevada – first opened its doors in Elko to seven students on Oct. 12, 1874. The Nevada State Legislature approved the relocation of the University to Reno in 1885, and students were welcomed to classes in Morrill Hall in 1886.

The original school bell made the move to Reno and later was returned to Elko where it has been on display outside of Elko High School's "old gym" on College Avenue – the original site of the University – since 1974.

Recognizing the timber framework holding the bell was in dire disrepair, members of two Elko Rotary clubs embarked on a project to reconstruct the framework in Nevada's sesquicentennial celebration year. That goal was met Oct. 22, when University representa-

tives joined with residents of Elko to dedicate the new structure. The dedication event was designated by the NV150 Commission as a Legacy Project commemorating Nevada's sesquicentennial.

Getting to this point was not easy, and discussions about the project began more than a decade ago. But those behind the effort persisted and, with donations from Elko's Rotary clubs, Barrick Gold, Newmont Mining Corporation, Ormaza Construction and numerous individuals, the "Nevada Bell Project" came to fruition.

"I think it is just wonderful that we are preserving this monument that is not only the site of the original University of Nevada, but also the site where higher education began in Nevada," said Kevin Melcher '79 (physical education) '81 M.A. (physical education), member of the Nevada System of Higher Education Board of Regents and Elko resident and Rotarian, said.

–Jane Tors '82

Bookshelf: The Red Queen's Run

Nevada Professor Emeritus and author Bourne Morris recently released her first novel in a mystery trilogy about murder on a university campus. Morris spent 26 years as a beloved professor at the University of Nevada, Reno Reynolds School of Journalism where she taught marketing communications and media ethics.

A captivating whodunit, "The Red Queen's Run" intrigues readers with the combative politics of a journalism school that led to the murder of its dean. Heroine Meredith "Red" Solaris and the case detective are at the center of the devious agendas of faculty and students alike as layers of the plot thicken and characters evolve. Red must sleuth out the murderer before she finds herself the next victim.

Before joining the Reynolds School, Morris served as head of advertising giant Ogilvy's agency in Los Angeles where she worked with clients such as Mattel, Columbia Pictures and General Foods. She was later honored to be a member of the 1984 Olympic Organizing

Committee. Bourne became a full professor at the Reynolds School in 1983.

–Carrie Bushá '06

Critical Acclaim

"Former university professor Bourne Morris proves herself a masterful storyteller in this compelling debut novel. "The Red Queen's Run" is compulsive reading as it takes on the ripped-from-the-headlines topic of campus violence. I can't wait to follow its smart new heroine, Red Solaris, as this trilogy continues."

–Alan Deutschman, University of Nevada, Reno professor and author of "Change or Die"

"When a lonely, attractive journalism professor is swept up in a murder mystery, her curious mind and tough refusal to cave in to intimidation leads her into danger ... and a volatile romance. "The Red Queen's Run" is a psychological thriller that reveals the Ivory

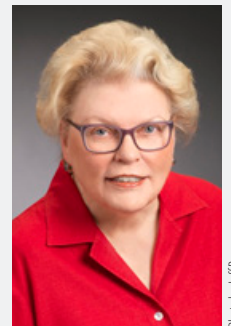


Photo by Jeff Ross

Professor Emeritus Bourne Morris retired from the Reynolds School of Journalism in 2009 to commit herself full time to writing fiction. Her first novel, "The Red Queen's Run" is available online and in stores.

Tower to be a hothouse full of monstrous egos, where bullying thrives long past playground days, and academic discipline requires research skills of the detective kind."

–Kate Manning, author of "My Notorious Life"

Climate change further endangers Devils Hole pupfish

Climate change is hurting reproduction of the endangered Devils Hole pupfish, threatening the survival of this rare species that has numbered as few as 35 individuals, new research by the University of Nevada, Reno and Desert Research Institute shows.

Scientists Scott Tyler '90 Ph.D. (hydrology/hydrogeology) of the University's College of Science and Mark Hausner '10 M.S. (hydrology), '13 Ph.D. (hydrogeology), a hydrologist at DRI, report that water on a small shelf near the surface of the 400-foot deep geothermal fissure in the Mojave Desert where the pupfish live is heating up as a result of climate change and is likely to continue heating to dangerous levels.

The hotter water, which now reaches more than 93 degrees, has shortened by one week the amount of time pupfish larvae have to



Photo by Scott Tyler

Scuba divers conduct fish research at Devils Hole, the only habitat for the naturally occurring population of the endangered fish. It is an extreme environment, with water temperatures and dissolved oxygen concentrations near their lethal limits for fish.

hatch during the optimal recruitment periods. The recruitment period is the 10 weeks during which water temperatures are conducive to egg hatching and sufficient food is available to sustain the newly hatched larvae.

This decrease contributed to the decline of the adult pupfish population, according to their scientific paper, "Life in a Fishbowl: Prospects for the endangered Devils Hole pupfish (*Cyprinodon diabolis*) in a changing climate," published in *Water Resources Research*, a journal of the American Geophysical Union.

Tyler and his team used fiber-optic cable distributed temperature-sensing equipment, pioneered by Tyler, to monitor temperature

changes in the water-filled limestone cavern in the Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge, a detached unit of Death Valley National Park.

The iridescent blue, one-inch-long pupfish have lived in the top 80 feet of the water-filled cavern for more than 10,000 years.

"There is no question that the temperature is going to rise on the shallow shelf, and there is no question that the fish are going to be affected," said Tyler, lead scientist in the project, co-author of the paper and a professor of hydrological sciences at the University.

—Mike Wolterbeek '02



Photo by Scott Tyler

Seismological network doubles as Tahoe area fire lookout

Four high-definition, infrared-capable mountaintop cameras have been installed at Lake Tahoe by the Nevada Seismological Laboratory to help fire agencies monitor and respond quickly to fires. The cameras are part of its earthquake monitoring network

that spans the Great Basin and eastern Sierra Nevada mountains.

"The fire cameras, and especially the Internet backbone and network that supports it, are a valuable tool for fire officials and Tahoe researchers who are studying the lake's

Building out the earthquake monitoring network with high-definition cameras allows agencies to monitor fires such as the 2014 King Fire in California's El Dorado County. This photo was captured from the new Angel's Roost fire camera at South Lake Tahoe.

environment," Graham Kent, director of the University's Nevada Seismological Laboratory, said.

On the evening of Aug. 9, the University's Snow Valley Peak camera was being used by Mac Heller of the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit of the U.S. Forest Service to scan the area, which had been getting lightning for several days. He saw thin wisps of smoke in the Spooner Summit area and contacted the Forest Service's dispatch center in Camino, Calif.

"Once the suppression resources were on scene, they reported it as a half an acre," Heller said. "Who knows how big the Spooner fire would have been if it had been reported later."

—Mike Wolterbeek '02

DEAR WORLD



TOP: Marcelo F. Vazquez, Ed.D., associate dean of students with students: Ethan Cho, Soliada Jindarat Vazquez, Margot Gould and Cassidy Smith, "College town mentality." LEFT: Al Stavitsky, dean of the Reynolds School of Journalism, "Reinventing journalism." RIGHT: Mary Quiroga, TRiO Scholars Program and Nevada economics major, "TRiO works."

Nevada "invests in its voice" with Dear World

The Donald W. Reynolds School of Journalism, in conjunction with the Joe Crowley Student Union and the Associated Students of the University of Nevada, brought portrait photographer and media entrepreneur Robert X. Fogarty to the University for a unique campus-wide special event called Dear World Nevada

on Tues., Sept. 2. Fogarty is the creator of the Dear World project, started in New Orleans, La., in 2009. Dear World asks people to write messages on their bodies that have meaning, then Fogarty captures their photo and asks subjects to share their message with the world.

He's written on and photographed everyone

from Drew Brees to Deepak Chopra, Seal, Edward Norton, Elle Macpherson, Boston Marathon bombing victims, Syrian refugees, and Hurricane Sandy and Hurricane Katrina survivors to name a few. His work has been featured on the "Oprah Winfrey Show," "CNN," The Washington Post, The New York Times, USA Today, Inc. Magazine, PBS and other well-recognized media outlets.



TOP LEFT: Wendy Damonte '94, KTVN anchor "Know your breast density" and Heather Reimer, chief visionary officer, Each One. Tell One., "Cancer survivor." TOP RIGHT: Brian Polian, Nevada head football coach, "Keep chopping." LEFT: Colin Loretz, The Reno Collective, "Start something!" MIDDLE: Reg Steward, University of Nevada, Reno, chief diversity officer, "Fate defied." RIGHT: Dania Jordan, Nevada McNair Scholar, "Generation Breaker."

Every portrait tells a story.

The Dear World Nevada event celebrated all of the people that make the Nevada community unique. Fogarty's "invest in your voice" approach allowed individuals from all corners of campus to come together and share very personal stories with one another.

"Dear World is part journalistic storytelling, part entrepreneurial venture and part social experiment," said Reynolds School Dean Al

Stavitsky. "Robert's visionary approach aligns with the Reynolds School mission of media innovation."

More than 200 University faculty, students and Reno-Tahoe community members had their photos taken; many also attended a keynote address featuring Fogarty and portrait release party at the Joe Crowley Student Union Theater.

"My experience at Nevada was one of the

best I've had," Fogarty said. "I was truly impressed with the depth and range of photo shoot participants and the messages they decided to share. More so, my time at Nevada was invigorating and inspiring."

—Jill Stockton, communications specialist,
Reynolds School of Journalism

LOOK ONLINE

View all portraits
visit: [Facebook.com/
ReynoldsSchool
ofJournalism](https://www.facebook.com/ReynoldsSchoolofJournalism)



Photos courtesy Wolf Pack Athletics

Cody Fajardo: “Thank you, Nevada”

I’m from Southern California, and as a high school football player, I had only really heard of the USCs and UCLAs of the world. When the University of Nevada began recruiting me, I was intrigued and took a leap of faith to come to Reno and check out the campus and the football program. From the moment I got here, I felt right at home. All of the coaches, players, faculty and staff, and students I met were all so helpful and so willing to do anything in order to make my experience the best. Family is a big thing for me, and the more I walked around and talked with people, the more I felt like this was one big family.

Colin Kaepernick hosted me on my recruiting visit. At the time he was just the starting quarterback at Nevada, but now five years later he is an NFL icon and one of the most well-known football players in the world. To have a relationship with someone like that goes to show the potential of this University. The people you sit with in class, or ride with on the shuttle on campus, or even wave at in passing, they will all be successful one day. Your classmates here today may end up as the CEO of a Fortune 500 company, a scientist that cures a deadly disease, or even the President of the United States of America. It is all possible because of what Nevada demands from you

and the culture it has for its students. The University of Nevada is a special place where you can get a great education and be challenged intellectually.

As a SoCal kid, I was used to beaches, theme

*“It is all possible
because of what the
University of Nevada
demands from you,
and the culture it has
for its students.”*

—Cody Fajardo ‘14

parks, huge malls and those sorts of things. Coming to “The Biggest Little City in the World” was quite an environmental shift for me. When I took my first trip to Lake Tahoe, I couldn’t believe my eyes. Never had I seen so

many beautiful green trees, so much wildlife, and such a big and beautiful blue lake. I caught my first fish in the Truckee River, I shot my first dove (in season, of course) outside of Reno. I went off-roading for my first time with a buddy of mine named Brock Hekking on the outskirts of this great city. This place has so much to do and so much to offer; you just don’t realize all of that until you get here. The Fajardo family loves Reno more than anything, and if it was easy for them, they would all move here to live out the rest of their lives.

Football is what brought me to Nevada, but the reason I came was for my education. To have the opportunity to earn a degree from this institution and to compete for championships and bowl games year-in and year-out was a perfect fit for me. Among the things I am most proud of at Nevada is earning my business management degree with a GPA over 3.0. I’ll always remember and reflect on two classes in particular. First, Professor Mary Groves ’99 (management), ’01 M.B.A. taught a management class that centered around professional development – writing a resume, preparing for an interview, proper attire, how to speak to people and write professionally. I feel ready and prepared for the real world because of that class. The second was my final class at Nevada,



Cody Fajardo '14 helping to paint the Fremont Cannon Nevada blue, once again, after the Wolf Pack defeated the UNLV Rebels 49 to 27, Nov. 29.

contracts and negotiations with Professor James Sundali. From the business world when it comes to contract writing and union negotiations to the personal world and buying a house or a car, I learned so much from him.

When it comes to football, I'm just thankful I had the opportunity to play for the coaches I had here and with all of my great teammates. Because of Nevada and because of the Pistol offense, I have the opportunity to play football

professionally. I am one of two players in the history of the game to run for 3,000 yards and pass for 9,000 yards; the other player to do that was Colin Kaepernick. I'm writing as we prepare for another bowl game. Knowing that as I leave this program, the Fremont Cannon is in its rightful place in Cashell Fieldhouse. Nevada Football is a special thing, and I wouldn't trade my experiences here for anything. I love this program and I love playing for the fans in

Mackay Stadium.

This University means so much to me, not only for football, but as a person as well. Everyone that I have come in contact with has either been a great role model, a great friend, or someone I can lean on for great advice.

The culture at Nevada is incredible. Everyone from the bottom of the job totem pole to the very top have been nothing but remarkable to me. I continue to love life here, and it brings a smile to my face every day I touch foot on campus. It is safe to say that I came in as a kid who didn't know much about northern Nevada, and now I'm leaving as a man who loves it. I proudly call this my home away from home. One day I would like to raise my family in northern Nevada.

To everyone that has helped me become the man I am today, I thank you, and I will forever be grateful for the way you have been so positive to me and have had such an impact on my life. Thank you, Nevada. **N**

—Cody Fajardo '14

Quick hits ↴

ALL-MOUNTAIN WEST ACCOLADES

Soccer, Chrisalyn Fonte, *second-team honors*
Cross Country, Demerey Kirsch, *second-team honors*
Volleyball, Tessa Lea`ea, *honorable mention*
Football, Alex Boy, *second-team honors*
 Cody Fajardo, *honorable mention*
 Matt Galas, *second-team honors*
 Charles Garrett, *honorable mention*
 Jerred Gipson, *second-team honors*
 Brock Hekking, *second-team honors*
 Jonathan McNeal, *honorable mention*
 Ian Seau, *second-team honors*
 Rykeem Yates, *honorable mention*

DON'T MISS!

Jan. 16 – 31st Annual Bobby Dolan Baseball Dinner at the Silver Legacy. Tickets are \$150. The keynote speaker

will be "Carson Crusher" Matt Williams, a five-time All-Star who played 17 seasons for the San Francisco Giants, Arizona Diamondbacks and Cleveland Indians. More information is available at (775) 682-6901.

Feb. 2 – Blue Tie Ball at the Peppermill Resort Spa Casino. Tickets are \$250 and discounted rooms at the Peppermill are available. This year's event will feature an Oscars theme, and Wolf Pack student-athletes and cheer members will provide a virtual tour through Hollywood's epic films.

WOLF PACK STUDENT-ATHLETES GRADUATION RATE HITS 80 PERCENT

Forty Wolf Pack student-athletes earned degrees in Winter Commencement ceremonies in December. The University of Nevada, Reno's Graduation Success Rate for student-athletes rose for the eighth time in nine years, and matched its high-water mark of 80 percent, according to a report released by the NCAA in the fall.



This year's graduating class included former softball player Jayme King '14. A Fernley, Nev. native, King is a two-time cancer survivor, and she is battling Ewing's Sarcoma now for the third time.

Photo by Theresa Dama-Douglas

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Photo by Jeff Dow

Nevada Alumni Council

For 2015, the 27-member Nevada Alumni Council will be led by Matt Clifton and six executive committee officers. We also welcomed six new board members this year.



Matt Clifton '93
President



Ty Windfeldt '01
Past President



Nick Butler '02, '06 M.A.
Treasurer/President-elect



Joe Nannini '00, '10 Ed.S.
Vice President for Student Outreach



Mary-Ann K. Brown '85, '96 M.S.
Vice President for Membership & Marketing



Amy Ozuna '08
Vice President for Community Outreach



Mike McDowell '03
Vice President for Chapter Development



Peter Costa '84, '88 M.D.
New Board Member



Jack Sutton '70
New Board Member



Trevor Macaluso '11
New Board Member



Matthew Forman '06
New Board Member



Megan May '05, '07 B.S., '13 MBA
New Board Member



Chul Yim '04
New Board Member

Nevada Alumni Council Executive Committee

Matt Clifton '93
President

Ty Windfeldt '01
Past President

Nick Butler '02, '06 M.A.
Treasurer/President-elect

Joe Nannini '00, '10 Ed.S.
Vice President for Student Outreach

Mary-Ann K. Brown '85, '96 M.S.
Vice President for Membership and Marketing

Amy (Stechman) Ozuna '08
Vice President for Community Outreach

Mike McDowell '03
Vice President for Chapter Development

Board Members

Gary Aldax '92

Derek Beenfeldt '93, '11 M.D.

R.J. Boyajian '14 M.A.
GSA President

Delores (Bercellos) Clewe '69

Peter Costa '84, '88 M.D.

Tim Crowley '92

Matthew Forman '06

Michael Hix '89

Doug Knuth

Director, Intercollegiate Athletics, ex-officio member

Kris (Perkins) Layman '93

Trevor Macaluso '11

Megan May '05, '07 B.S., '13 M.B.A.

Chrissy Menicucci '86

Deborah Pierce '86

Brad Platt '00

David Pressler '72 M.P.A., '82 M.A.

Jake Pereira

ASUN President

Victor Sherbondy '95, '00 M.A.

Tim Suiter '91

Jack Sutton '70

Jocelyn Weart '00

Chul Yim '04

Staff Members

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Vice President, Development & Alumni Relations

Bruce Mack

Associate Vice President, Development & Alumni Relations

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Director, Alumni Relations

Christy (Upchurch) Jerz '97

Assistant Director, Alumni Relations

Juliane Di Meo '14 M.A.

Assistant Director, Alumni Relations

Carrie Bushá '06

Coordinator, Alumni Relations

Angie Cooper

Coordinator, Alumni Relations

Kevin Price

Coordinator, Alumni Relations

Hope Hepner

Administrative Assistant II

Class Chat



Mari Kay Bickett, J.D., '73



Donald "Craig" Houk '85



Anne Pershing '83

KEY

N Nevada Alumni Lifetime Member
N Nevada Alumni Annual Member

'70s

Mari Kay Bickett, J.D., '73 (management) is the CEO of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ). She leads the oldest and largest judicial membership organization in the nation dedicated to supporting judges in the critical work they do to improve outcomes for children and families. Headquartered on the University of Nevada, Reno campus since 1969, the NCJFCJ provides cutting-edge training, wide-ranging technical assistance and research to help the nation's courts, judges and staff in their important work.

'80s

Dr. Jim Pappas '82 (biology), '86 M.D. has established an amniotic stem cell therapy program at his practice, Active Sports Medicine, in Reno. Jim has experience in stem cell technologies and has utilized them in his practice during both in-office and surgical procedures to aid in the healing process.

Anne Pershing '83 (speech/theatre) earned third place in the Nevada Press Association's 2014 Better Newspaper Contest for her story, "The Road to Medical School," which ran in the spring 2013 issue of the Nevada School of Medicine's *Synapse* magazine. She was honored in the category for "Best Explanatory Journalism." Anne is a Pulitzer Prize-nominated newspaper woman who is a member

of the Nevada Newspaper Hall of Fame and served on the board of the Nevada Press Association for 16 years, including one year as president.

Donald "Craig" Houk '85 (criminal justice) retired from the U.S. Army in June 2014 after 30 years of service. He was assigned to the Military Police in various commands, including Fort Lewis, Wash., Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, Korea and Fort Carson, Colo. He also served two deployments in Afghanistan.

He retired a "Full Bird Colonel" and now lives with his wife, Brenda, and their beloved husky in Phoenix, Ariz.

'90s

Valerie (Nichols) Coffey '90 (physics) and her partner Mitch Rosich sent their children to college in August and promptly sold their homes, cars and most of their belongings, and left the cold of Massachusetts to travel the U.S. as full-time RVers. They now work and



Photo by Theresa Dama-Douglas

With 2 graduate students, 2 master degrees, 5 soon to be grads in 2015, 5 undergraduates, 7 wolf cubs and 10 University faculty – the past, present and future alumni of the University of Nevada, Reno gather together in the infant room of the Child and Family Research Center (CFRC). Charleston Rigney with baby Lucy Gillen, teacher Heather Sergi with baby Violet Frost, Samantha Brumbach with baby Caylen Milliard, Katie Draughon with baby Sydney O'Hair, teacher Arryell Davis '08, '11 M.S., with baby Charlie Folmer, Grace Hoak with baby Elliott Franich, and Christina Fegundez. Baby Charlie Tuttle was out sick.

live aboard a 45-foot motor home, checking off states they've never seen, visiting national parks, and seeing friends and family. Valerie is documenting their adventures on her blog, RVLuckorWhat.com.

Robyn Campbell-Ouchida '93 (journalism) was recently honored as a Distinguished Women of Nevada at a luncheon held Oct. 22 at the Jim Rogers' Sunbelt Auto Collection



Museum in Las Vegas.

Tony Illia '96 M.A. (English) was named public information officer for the Nevada Department of Transportation. He will serve as primary agency spokesman for District 1, encompassing the Las Vegas Valley, as well as Clark, Lincoln, Esmeralda, Mineral and Nye counties. Tony has served as Nevada special correspondent for the McGraw-Hill Construction Group, including Engineering News-Record (ENR), Architectural Record, and ENR Southwest, from 2000 to 2014. He had also been a frequent contributor to the *Las Vegas Business Press*, *Las Vegas Review-Journal* and *CityLife*, among other publications, during the past decade.

Levi Andrew Monson was born June 25, 2014 to **Joe Monson '05** (agricultural and applied economics) and **Daphne (Bateman) Monson '07** (biochemistry) '08 (nursing). Levi joins big sister Whitney Rose Monson.

Megan (Stanley) Gibson '02 (journalism), '10 M.A. (journalism) and **James Gibson '02** (management) welcomed their son, Coen Thomas, on May 22, 2014. He joins big sister, Adelyn (3 years) and big brother, Beckett (2 years).

Matt Brecke '08 (civil engineering) and **Tracy (Trojan) Brecke '08** (management) proudly announce the birth of their daughter, Brook Norlene, who joined them Aug. 11, 2014.



Robyn Campbell-Ouchida '93



Tony Illia '96 M.A.



John Beck '08, '10 M.A.

Kirsten Mashinter '98 (English), '03 M.A. (teaching English as a second language) has rejoined Vermont-based PH International as an English Language Teacher Trainer. She currently resides in Tbilisi, Georgia where she trains, coaches and mentors public school English teachers as part of the English Language through Civic Education Program.

'00s

Michael Huggins '00 Ph.D. (chemistry) was recently appointed dean of the newly formed College of Science, Engineering and Health at the University of West Florida. He is excited for the opportunity to continue strengthening the STEM and health programs, while devel-

Wolfcubs



Val Tramonte '00 (pre-medicine), '04 M.D. and **Katie (Monson) Tramonte '04** (elementary education) welcomed their third son, Silas Justice, into their family Sept. 14, 2014.



Patrick Carey '06 (criminal justice) and **Lacey (Wolf) Carey '06** (journalism), '11 M.A. (elementary education) would like to announce the birth of their daughter, Elizabeth Jane Carey, on Aug. 14, 2014.



Michael Huggins '00 Ph.D.



Karyn Leanos '07

opening new academic programs that advance educational and economic development.

Jocelyn Weart '00 (biology) is a supervising criminalist at the Santa Clara County Crime Laboratory in the South Bay Area. She married David Farkouh in August, and they love to enjoy the outdoors in their spare time. Jocelyn and other Pack grads in the Bay Area have just established a Bay Area Alumni Chapter. Check them out, as there will be lots of fun events over the next year!

Dano Kraig Fernandez '03 (criminal justice) is a 2015 doctoral candidate in public policy and administration with a specialty in homeland security policy and coordination. Dano currently resides in South Burlington, Vt. with

his wife, Eva, and works with the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Enforcement and Removal Operations in Williston, Vt.

Denise Sheldon '03 (psychology) served as team leader for the U.S. Women's National Team when they won their first ever world championship gold medal at the 2014 FIVB (International Federation of Volleyball) World Championships in Italy in October. The team defeated China in the final match, and was led by legendary volleyball player and coach, Karch Kiraly. Denise currently lives in Colorado Springs and works for USA Volleyball and the U.S. Olympic Committee. She is committed to helping Team USA win Olympic gold in Rio and beyond.

Rebecca Eckland '04 (English literature), '09 M.A. (foreign language and literature) '09 M.A. (English) recently won the World Championship title in the individual 6-hour cycling time trial in the 6-12-24 Hour World Time Trial Championships held in Borrego Springs, Calif. Rebecca is an elite triathlete and writer who still calls Reno home.

Matt Miller '04 (political science) has been named director of business operations of athletics at San Jose State University (SJSU). After earning a masters in sports management at SJSU in 2006, Matt was hired by the Spartans Athletics Department to perform fiscal operations and event coordination. His new assignment includes director of home football games.

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Karyn Leanos '07 (social work) has worked with the Child and Family Research Center with the University of Nevada College of Education for 16 years, first as an early childhood teacher and most recently as a home visitor. She loves working with children and their families. Karyn recently won the Nevada Alumni Association's 2014 Homecoming Facebook Contest. Karyn won a trip for two to cheer on the Pack in Las Vegas when they battled the Rebels Nov. 29.

John Beck '08 (geography and anthropology), '10 M.A. (criminal justice) has been promoted to global law enforcement industry manager at

Esri Inc., where he's been since 2011. Previously, John was a deputy sheriff with the Washoe County Sheriff's Office. At Esri Inc., John uses geospatial intelligence to assist law enforcement agencies worldwide.

'10s

Tyler Anderson '10 (political science) recently graduated cum laude from Willamette University College of Law with his doctor of jurisprudence. He was admitted to the Oregon State Bar in October and is currently working as a judicial clerk to the Hon. Jay A. McAlpin at the Lane County Circuit Court in Eugene, Ore.

Gallagher Lawson '10 (English) is the author of "The Paper Man," a novel to be published by Unnamed Press, available in May. He is represented by the Hill Nadell Literary Agency. Gallagher has worked as a travel writer and technical writer. He lives in Los Angeles.

Kelley Riegner '10 M.A. (educational leadership) was recently selected for a one-year orthopedic physician extender residency program with Orthopedic Surgery and Sports Medicine Teaching and Research Foundation (OTRF) in Westmont, Ill. Kelley will evaluate and educate patients, take their history, order diagnostics, care for wounds, and assist in sur-



Jocelyn Weart '00



Tyler Anderson '10

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www.alumni.unr.edu/GoldenReunion



Kelley Riegner '10 M.A.



Nick Tscheekar '14

gery. This training will prepare Kelley to join an orthopedic practice and make an immediate impact in all aspects of the clinical practice.

Bret Stancil '10 (biology) recently joined the banking and finance practice of the global law firm, Jones Day. His practice is centered on commercial financing transactions, including representing financial institutions, borrowers, agents, project sponsors and companies in various domestic and cross-border financing transactions.

Nick Tscheekar '14 (international affairs and political science) has been hired as initiatives

director for the Community Foundation of Western Nevada. Nick brings extensive volunteer engagement experience. In the newly created position, Nick is responsible for building community engagement with You'N-I, an initiative to help homeless youth ages 12 to 24. Nick will also be the face of the newly created RenoYouthNetwork.com, an online guide for youth services. [N](#)

KEY

N Nevada Alumni Lifetime Member
N Nevada Alumni Annual Member

Submissions are due
Feb. 27 and can be sent to: chatter@unr.edu. We edit all submissions for style, clarity and length.



Kickin' it with K-von | It's going to be a fantastic new year...

all these traditions I should have already been exposed to for the first time after moving to Los Angeles after college. That's when I first learned of Nowruz (Persian New Year), a holiday where children receive gifts, money, candy and new clothes. I thought to myself, "Wait, Dad never told me about this? Someone owes me some 'back-holiday-child-support!'"

Instead of getting mad, I got educated by hiring a camera crew and embarking on a mission to learn EVERYTHING I could about Nowruz through a not-so-conventional comedy tour. The result is a 90-minute documentary. The journey begins in Reno highlighting all the great things Nevada has to offer, then I meet with family, friends and scholars. From that point, it's full speed ahead as we crisscross North America, attending Nowruz parties ranging from a small basement gathering to a huge sold-out theater with thousands in attendance. Celebs like The Iron Sheik (legendary wrestler), Maz Jobrani (Comedy Central), Ahmed Ahmed (TBS/Sullivan & Son), Rudi Bakhtiar (CNN) and many more pop up to bring the funny at every stop along the way.

By the end of the whirlwind tour, you'll have seen a standup comedian perform under some tough

conditions, effortlessly learn some intriguing history, and thoroughly enjoyed yourself the entire time.

The best part is you don't have to be Middle Eastern to enjoy the film. Find out about a holiday that 300 million people celebrate each year. Some argue it started the Easter tradition of painting eggs, and had a guy with a white beard handing out gifts to children 2,000 years before the idea of Santa Clause even existed.

I gave the past three years of my life to create a film that can be enjoyed with your whole family. With the help of an incredible crew, it has generated buzz and grabbed the attention of the BBC, NPR, TEDxTalks, and even won at a few film festivals. If you like standup comedy, history, culture, food or dancing, here's a unique blend of all the above. I'm hoping my Nevada friends will support this dream that's become a reality by checking out "NOWRUZ: Lost & Found." HAPPY NEW YEAR, EVERYONE!

K-von '03 is a comedian, tv host and now writer/director. If you are interested in knowing more about the film, pre-ordering a copy, or want to see the trailer, please write to info@K-vonComedy.com.

A great thing about being Persian is that you get to celebrate the New Year twice! Just like the Chinese, many Middle Eastern people hold their New Year parties in the spring. It makes sense because that's when the grass is growing, birds are chirping and baby animals are being born.

Wait. New Years in March? If that sounds a little odd, don't worry, you aren't alone. I never really paid attention to it myself. My father immigrated to the good ol' USA from Iran in the '70s and decided to settle and raise the family in Reno. I starting hearing about



Photo by Theresa Danna-Boudgas

Nevada Alumni Association honors Fall 2014 Senior Scholars

More than 75 family, friends, college deans and others from the University of Nevada, Reno's administration joined the Nevada Alumni Association in honoring the Fall Senior Scholars Dec. 4. These top graduating seniors from each school or college at Nevada were recognized for their hard work and dedication throughout their collegiate journey. The faculty mentor who had the most impact on their academic career at the University was honored as well. *BACK ROW:* Professor Stacy Demitropoulos, James Winn, Quinton Bunk, Melissa Burnham, James Trexler, Kelley Stewart and Sheri Faircloth. *FRONT ROW:* Jordan Forman, Alyssa Addington, Matthew Folsom, Kelsey DeRose and Cayla Harvey.

College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources

Kelsey DeRose

Mentor: Kelley Stewart

GPA 3.914

College of Business

Cayla Harvey

Mentor: Sheri Faircloth

GPA 3.939

College of Education

Alyssa Addington

Mentor: Melissa Burnham

GPA 3.985

College of Liberal Arts

Quinton Bunk

Mentor: James Winn

GPA 3.975

College of Science

Matthew Folsom

Mentor: James Trexler

GPA 3.969

Division of Health Sciences

Jordan Forman

Mentor: Stacy Demitropoulos

GPA 3.964

Go Greek.



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Pack your bags and join fellow Nevada alumni on an exotic Oceanic Cruise to one of the many exciting destinations our Pack Tracks travel program has to offer. From white-sand beaches and golden temples to emerald rainforests and crystal-clear lagoons, your destination awaits.

Greek Isles Odyssey: Sept. 26 – Oct. 5, 2015

Pagodas & Palaces: Jan. 6 – 24, 2016

Radiant Rhythms: Feb. 27 – March 11, 2016

Atolls & Islands: March 25 – April 4, 2016

To plan your trip, visit alumni.unr.edu, or call GO Next at (800) 842-9023.

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Chapter Updates



LEFT: University of Nevada Powwow Princess Kaya McAfee with Governor Sandoval '86 and First Lady Kathleen Sandoval '92 M.A. RIGHT: The Asian American Pacific Islander Chapter under the blue Reno Arch during their fall Mystery Bus Trip Oct. 17.



USAC Alumni Chapter

Derreck Calkins, dcalkins@unr.edu

The USAC Alumni Chapter enjoyed a very busy fall. The chapter hosted the Alumni Welcome Back event, the Alumni Resume Workshop and the first chapter Homecoming tailgate. We are very excited to announce the recent launch of a LinkedIn group for USAC friends and alumni. This group is a great place for our alumni to network and reconnect with each other. Check us out! To learn about upcoming events, please contact Derreck Calkins, (775) 682-6784.

Sacramento Alumni Chapter

Steve Park '99, spark@newmarkccarey.com

The Sacramento Alumni Chapter is in full planning mode for its Annual Mystery Bus Trip. Last year, alumni, family and friends enjoyed the night out and the chapter netted more than \$3,800 that went toward the Eppie G. Johnson Scholarship Endowment for students from the Sacramento area.

The Sacramento Chapter had a great turnout for the Homecoming football game. Chapter member Bill Chaffin '66 was honored at half time as a College of Liberal Arts Distinguished Alumnus.

We meet monthly at different locations for happy hour. Visit the Nevada Alumni Association - Sacramento Chapter on Facebook or contact Steve Park. Go Pack!

Nevada Cheer and Spirit Alumni Chapter

Elliot E. Sparkman '04, eesparkman@gmail.com

We celebrated our most successful and highest-attended

Homecoming this fall with our annual social, tailgate and halftime field introduction. Thank you to all our generous Homecoming sponsors – Wolf Den, Qdoba, Famous Dave's, Silver and Blue Outfitters, Creative Coverings, Camelot Party Rentals, Black Dot Vodka and Morrey Distributing.

We also partnered with the Southern Nevada Alumni Chapter, Silver and Blue Outfitters and Nevada Beverage for a tailgate and tickets to the Nevada vs. UNLV game. In addition, we introduced our Mentorship Program, which partners a current student athlete with a professional from our chapter. Please join us Saturday, Feb. 28 at Lawlor Events Center to cheer on our seniors during the Wolf Pack men's basketball game. Contact President Elliot E. Sparkman for details. Go Pack!

College of Business Alumni Association

Nicole (Moschetti) Vance '96, Nicole.vance@dunham.com

The College of Business Alumni Association (COBA) thanks Anthony Puckett, financial advisor with Morgan Stanley, for his service as board president for the 2013-14 term. We welcome incoming President Nicole Vance, regional director and senior wealth planning strategist for Dunham Trust Company.

Recently, COBAA awarded the Business Student Council partial funding of \$3,000 for their annual Silicon Valley trip to educate students and enhance the reputation of the College of Business in the Bay Area, as well as \$3,000 in partial funding for the Nevada Global Business Program to send one student to London for a four-week study program with Nevada and UNLV professors.

We look forward to our upcoming annual golf tournament May 7. Please save the date and support the College of Business! If you

are interested in joining COBAA please visit www.unr.edu/business/alumni-and-giving and "like" us on Facebook.

Orvis School of Nursing Alumni Association

Jan (Pritchard) Brady '63, '88 MBA, lvcrrswrds@aol.com

The OSNAA Chapter hosted a Homecoming barbeque Oct. 1 for Orvis alumni, faculty and students. More than 50 participants enjoyed food and fun on the Health Sciences Quad. The group also viewed class photographs that date back to 1964. These photographs were collected and arranged in a portfolio by alumna and emerita faculty Mary Ann Lambert '71, '82 M.S.N. Everyone had a great time finding their graduating class and reminiscing about their Orvis experiences.

Congratulations to Sandra Talley '68 for receiving the Distinguished Alumni Award for the Division of Health Sciences. Sandra graduated from Orvis School of Nursing, taught and practiced at Yale University School of Nursing and now serves as the Arthur Emerton Orvis Endowed Professor. Find us at Facebook.com/osnaaunr or visit alumni.inr.edu/chapters for upcoming events.

Native American Alumni Chapter

Stephanie Wyatt '12, swyatt1031@gmail.com

The Native American Alumni Chapter proudly celebrated Native American Heritage month in November. Our University of Nevada, Reno Powwow Princesses participated in the Nevada Day parade and celebration. We also partnered with Wolf Pack Athletics to host N7 night at a men's and women's basketball game. N7 is a Nike organization that is committed to bringing athletics and its benefits to



TOP: Nevada Cheer and Spirit alumni from the past four decades were introduced during halftime of the 2014 Homecoming game. LEFT: Members of the Student Ambassador Alumni Chapter at the inaugural Homecoming Social. RIGHT: Southern Nevada Alumni Chapter members at the Nevada vs. WСУ watch party: Samantha Rice '12, Haley (Duffrin) Lewis '12 and Spencer Lewis '11.

Native American and Aboriginal communities. As the spring semester approaches, we look forward to awarding our Native American Alumni Chapter scholarships to deserving tribal members.

For information about membership and events, visit alumni.unr.edu, or contact Kari Emm at kemm@unr.edu or Stephanie Wyatt.

Southern Nevada Alumni Chapter

Scott Fielden '88, '93 M.D., sdfmd@aol.com

The Southern Nevada Alumni Chapter is entering its second year of growth, and we were awarded Outstanding Chapter of the Year at Homecoming! We had many socials this fall, including six football viewing parties and a tailgate party at the Nevada vs. UNLV football game. We also had an event at Dom DeMarcos Restaurant that was sponsored by Scott Gragson '89. We are currently planning our winter and spring events, which will include our annual Party at the Yurt at Mt. Charleston and the Reno Aces vs. the Las Vegas 51s baseball event that was a huge success last year. Stay tuned, we will release our spring calendar soon! Please contact Scott Fielden for more information and follow us on Facebook.

UNSONM Alumni Chapter

Scott Fielden '88, '93 M.D., sdfmd@aol.com

The School of Medicine Alumni Chapter recognizes all of the students and alumni who have done so much for their local community. Rubin Saavedra '95 M.D. was honored as Distinguished Alumnus for the School of Medicine for starting the Community Outreach Medical Center, a nonprofit dedicated to helping the working poor and under/uninsured.

The School of Medicine just released a November schedule for free student outreach clinics where students provide care for the un/under insured under the direct supervision of faculty and local physicians.

The Caroline Graham-Lamberts M.D. Memorial Scholarship fundraiser was held in October and was a successful event.

Fallon Alumni Chapter

Tina (Luke) Dakin '71, '84 M.Ed., jdakin@sbcglobal.net

The Fallon Alumni Chapter has been busy having fun the last few months. More than 60 people gathered at Lem Mackedon's outdoor big screen TV to watch the Nevada vs. Washington State football game and enjoy a buffet dinner. Another 55 people attended the Homecoming football game after tailgating with Dave Stix and Co. These two events supported the Elmo and Donna Dericco scholarship fund.

We invite you to join us. Jan. 24 to tailgate at the Old Post Office in Fallon to watch the Nevada vs. Fresno basketball game. On February 13 we will hold the CCHS Student Nevada Campus Tour, and an information night for those students in the spring. Contact Colleen at (775) 232-9486 for more information.

Asian American Pacific Islander Alumni Chapter

Nicole Shimabuku '03, '09 M.A., nicole.shimabuku@gmail.com

The chapter kicked off fall with a Mystery Bus Trip Friday, Oct. 17. Nearly 45 Nevada alumni and friends boarded the bus for a night visiting the 1864 Tavern, Heritage at Whitney Peak and Singer Social Club, among other stops in Reno. This event raised more than \$1,000 for the chapter's scholarship efforts that support undergraduate AAPI

students.

To stay up to date with the AAPI Chapter, visit the alumni.unr.edu/chapters.

Student Ambassador Alumni Chapter Update

Shaun Burgess '14, nvambassadoralumni@gmail.com

This riveting new chapter has put its place on the map. With their successful social at Pub 'N' Sub and their Nevada vs. UNLV ticket sales, this chapter is paving the path for all new chapters. The Nevada Student Ambassador Alumni Chapter is planning new and unique events for the spring semester, so stay tuned!

Northeastern Nevada Alumni Chapter

Danny Gonzales '90, '95 M.P.A., '04 Ph.D., wolfpackelko@gmail.com

Several chapter members gathered for the Homecoming parade and tailgated with alumni from Battle Mountain, Las Vegas and Reno. The group of 80 alumni and supporters welcomed members from the Elko Picon Party to Nevada's Homecoming events for the second year in a row.

On Oct. 22, several alumni and community leaders joined President Marc Johnson and Regent Kevin Melcher '79, '81 M.S. for the Nevada Bell Dedication, marking the 1874 original site of the University in Elko. The event commemorated Nevada's sesquicentennial.

If you are interested in joining the chapter, visit the Nevada Alumni Association online and register. Dues are just \$15. For additional information, email Danny Gonzales or call (775) 397.2418. [N](#)



Gatherings

(1)



(2)



(3)

Photos by Theresa Dama-Douglas



(4)



(5)



(6)



(7)



(8)



(9)



(10)



(11)



(12)

March from the Arch

The second annual March from the Arch Oct. 4 was once again a memorable event. The parade brought alumni, students and community members from the Reno Arch to the University Quad for a spirited pep rally. Featuring Head Football Coach Brian Polian, the March was presented by Barrick Gold in partnership with ASUN, the Nevada Alumni Association and the City of Reno, with more than 30 dedicated sponsors.

(1) The Pride of the Sierra leads the parade under the Reno Arch and up Virginia Street.

(2) The Gerhardt family gets front row seats for the parade.

(3) Nevada cheerleaders Kelsey Koyanagi and Haylee Garlock with Wolfie.

(4) Greek members back the pack.

(5) University President Marc Johnson with City of Reno incoming Mayor Hillary Schieve and City of Reno outgoing Mayor Bob Cashell '76.

(6) Students from Nye Hall show their Pack Pride.

(7) Amber Lloyd shows pride in her future alma mater.

(8) The Nevada Football truck under the Reno Arch.

(9) University Chancellor Dan Klaich '72 and Denise Klaich '73 with grandchildren, Aubrey (4) and Maddy (6), with University cheerleaders Kira Scott and Haylee Garlock.

(10) Nevada Football Head Coach Brian Polian addresses the pep rally.

(11) Nevada cheerleaders lead the rally on the Quad.

(12) Chloe Overholser (7), Wendy Damonte '94 and her children, Eva (11) and Dominic (9).

LOOK ONLINE

For more photos from all of our events visit: www.unr.edu/silverandblue

Gatherings



(1)



(2)



(3)



(4)



(5)



(6)



(7)

Photos by Theresa Danna-Douglas

Homecoming Gala

Each year, the Nevada Alumni Association recognizes outstanding alumni and friends for their professional achievements and service to the University. This year's Gala was held Oct. 2 in the Milt Glick Ballroom of the Joe Crowley Student Union.

(1) University President Marc Johnson (right) and Nevada Alumni Council President Ty Windfeldt '95 presented Barbara Smith Campbell '78 with the 2014 Alumna of the Year Award.

(2) Scott '88, '93 M.D., and Jill Fielden '91, pictured with friends and family. Scott was honored with the Alumni

Association Service Award. He also accepted the Chapter of the Year Award on behalf of the Southern Nevada Alumni Chapter.

(3) Sandy Rafealli '68, City of Reno outgoing Mayor Bob Cashell '76, Nancy Cashell '90, City of Reno Manager Andrew Clinger '95, R.J. Bath '68, '71 MBA and Barbara Bath. R.J. was honored with the Professional Achievement Award.

(4) Jeff Pickett '89 (second from right) was awarded the Alumni Association Service Award. Left to right: Erin St. Pierre, Tyler St. Pierre, Paul Frost '89, Aneliese Pickett, Jeff Pickett '89 and Sandi Pickett '90.

(5) Redfield Foundation Trustee Jerry Smith '03 accepted the Silver & Blue Appreciation Award on behalf of the Redfield Foundation, with Vice President of Development and Alumni Relations John Carothers, Maureen Rovig and Dan Rovig, who was awarded the University Service Award.

(6) Amanda Casey '99, '06 M.D. received the Outstanding Young Alumnus Award, and was supported by her husband, Dusty Casey '00, '13 M.A.

(7) Bill Chaffin '66 (right) was honored with the College of Liberal Arts Distinguished Alumnus Award. Shown here with Dick Trachok '49, '54 M.A. (center) and his son-in-law Bill Bertelson '72 (left).



(8) Randy Brown '89 (center), who received the Alumni Association Service Award, with Natalie Brown '99 and Paula Brown.

(9) Opal Adams '85 was awarded the College of Science Distinguished Alumnus Award. Shown here with her husband, Rich DeLong.

(10) Ryan Dotson '02, '05 M.S. received the Outstanding Young Alumnus Award. Shown with Elaine Dotson '02, '10 M.S. and Jennifer Edwards.

Homecoming Halftime Awards

The Nevada Alumni Association Award recipients were honored on Chris Ault Field during the Homecoming football game against Boise State Oct. 4.

(1) University President Marc Johnson congratulated each award recipient before a capacity crowd in Mackay Stadium.

(2) College of Business Distinguished Alumnus Riley Beckett

'68 introduces his grandson Kole Karwoski (11) to University President Marc Johnson.

(3) Debby Day accepted the Nevada Alumni Association Service Award on behalf of her late husband, T.J. Day. She was recognized on the field at halftime with all of the award recipients, including R.J. Bath '68, Professional Achievement honoree, '71 MBA (center) and Jerry Smith of the Redfield Foundation, Silver & Blue Appreciation honoree (left).

(4) 2014 Nevada Homecoming King and Queen, Javier Lopez Riviera and Aleta Vitkus.

Gatherings



(1)

Photos by Theresa Danna-Douglas



(2)



(1)



(2)

Photos by M.D. Welch



(3)



(1)

Photos by Dave Smith



(2)

Homecoming Tailgate

The Homecoming tailgate party was a sellout with Nevada football fans eager to see a great game against the Boise State Broncos Oct. 4. Nearly 250 alumni, friends and faculty enjoyed warm food, cold drinks and lots of Nevada spirit.

(1) Spirited Nevada fans fueled up before cheering on the Pack in Mackay Stadium.

(2) Student Ambassador Alumni Chapter President Priscilla Acosta '10 and Hector Mendoza '12.

Faculty Emeriti Tailgate

The Nevada Alumni Association welcomed the University's faculty emeriti to campus Nov. 1 for a tailgate party in Legacy Hall before the Nevada vs. San Diego State football game.

(1) Professors Emeriti Sachiko and Stephen St. Jeor, with Professor Emeritus Ardythe McCracken and her husband Bob.

(2) Chris and Abigail Jansen.

(3) Professor Emeritus Cynthia Birk and Terry Birk, with Professor Emeritus Betty '91 MBA Cossitt and Bill Cossitt.

UNLV Tailgate

Nearly 500 Wolf Pack fans joined the Southern Nevada Alumni Chapter and Silver and Blue Outfitters at Sam Boyd Stadium Nov. 29 for a tailgate before Nevada took on, and beat, UNLV.

(1) University President Marc Johnson along with Wolfie Jr., the Wolf Pack Marching Band and the Nevada Spirit Squad performed at the tailgate before the game.

(2) Wolf Pack fans from all over the country gathered to cheer on the Pack.

We couldn't have done it without you!

Thank you to our many generous sponsors.



ONCE NEVADA. ALWAYS NEVADA.

Remembering Friends



Paul M. Laxalt



Roger James Aiazzi '79



James Hammel Bean '78



Ardis Irene Bradshaw '49



Linda L. (Digesti) Charlebois '73



Col. Charles W. Fulkerson (ret.) '58



Lois Mikawa '80 M.Ed., '87 Ed.D.



Betty S. Pierson-Tobey '86



John P. Solaro '64



Kiara A. Wolf '92, '97 M.Ed.

Friends

Allan Dalbey

July 31, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

Sally Detrick

Aug. 3, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

Lloyd T. Dyer

Sept. 14, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

Virgil M. Getto

Nov. 6, 2014 — Fallon, Nev.

Harold E. Klieforth

July 12, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

Paul M. Laxalt

Aug. 24, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

Faculty

Wanda E. Hansen

Oct. 15, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

William H. Jacobsen

professor emeritus, English
Aug. 18, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

Ronald A. MacAuley

professor emeritus,
mathematics
Sept. 4, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

Davina (Malcolm)

Serapiglia

July 28, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

Elisa Maria Storke '02

(elementary education) '05
M.A. (English as a second
language) July 24, 2014 —
Reno, Nev.

Alumni

Ivy (Gubler) Anderson '34

Oct. 30, 2014 — Fallon, Nev.

Raymond E. Tennant '38

(education)
Oct. 14, 2014 — Tonopah, Nev.

Robert "Lefty" E.

McDonough '42

(economics)
Aug. 22, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

Pauline B. (Sirkegian)

Anderson, attended 1944
— 1945, 1968 — 1972
Sept. 23, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

June Louise (Topken)

Varnum, attended 1944—
1946
Oct. 20, 2014 — Sparks, Nev.

Mary Elizabeth Moore

'46 (mathematics)
Aug. 11, 2014 — Chicago, Ill.

John W. Sweatt '47

(business administration)
Sept. 9, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

Virginia Woodbury

Jenkins '47 (sociology)
August 7, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

Joyce W. (Nielsen)

Laxalt '48 (foreign
language and literature)
Sept. 22, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

Ardis Irene (Johnson)

Bradshaw '49 (art)
Oct. 25, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

Bebe G. Munn '49

(Spanish)
Aug. 27, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

Grace Beth (Cowgill)

Hart '50
Feb. 28, 2014 — Sierra Vista,
Ariz.

Vernon M. Meiser '50

(civil engineering)
Sept. 3, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

James Burton Scott '51

(geological engineering) '59
P.D. (geological engineering)
Nov. 9, 2012 — Sadoro—

Woolley, Wash.

Guenther W. Brueckner

'52 (business administration)
Sept. 19, 2014 — Sparks, Nev.

Lawrence S. Bianucci

attended 1953 — 1954
Aug. 2, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

Edward Dolan

attended
1953 — 1954
July 8, 2014 — Verdi, Calif.

Richard I. Nannini '53

(psychology)
July 23, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

Margaret A. (Sewell)

Seevers '53 (physical
education)
Aug. 18, 2014 — Surprise,
Ariz.

Rome Carrillo

attended
1955
Aug. 25, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

Elizabeth (Betty) C.

Munley '55 (sociology)
Nov. 8, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

Dudley L. Kline

attended
1957 — 1958 and 1962
Aug. 12, 2014 — Lake Tahoe,
Nev.

Col. Charles W.

Fulkerson (ret.) '58
(agricultural & resource
economics)
Oct. 25, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

Harbhajan Singh Bains

'58 (electrical engineering)
Nov. 17, 2013 — Seattle,
Wash.

Karel George Havelik

'60 (mining engineering)
Feb. 2, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

Bernard J. Scheiner

'61 (chemistry), '69 Ph.D.
(chemistry)
July 31, 2014 — Douglasville,
Ga.

Jolene R. (Swearingen)

Ankers '62 (elementary
education)
Sept. 20, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

John P. Solaro '64

(electrical engineering)
Oct. 5, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

Lloyd S. Hobron Jr.

attended 1969
Nov. 5, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

Yvonne M. (Peetz)

Lavalle '70 A.A. (fashion
trades)
Aug. 31, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

Ellisteen Alberta Fells

attended 1971
Sept. 21, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

Betsy A. (Simmons)

Hardin '71 (nursing)
July 27, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

Sally Ann (Lammers)

Zive, attended 1971
Oct. 20, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

Linda L. (Digesti)

Charlebois '73 (nursing)
Sept. 27, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

Brenda R. (Cravath)

Kizor-Ritter '73 (English),
'93 M.A. (counseling &
educational psychology)

Oct. 7, 2014 — Dayton, Nev.

Margaret (Coffey) Harjo

Frank, attended 1976
Oct. 21, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

Michael J. Lacey

attended 1976
Oct. 14, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

Harriet (Morgan)

Knauff '76 (English)
July 29, 2014 — Pleasanton
Hill, Calif.

James Hammel

Bean '78 (educational
administration/higher
education)
Sept. 25, 2014 — Yerington,
Nev.

George Robert Groth

'78 (industrial education)
Sept. 5, 2014 — Carson City,
Nev.

Roger James Aiazzi '79

(pre-physical therapy)
Aug. 26, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

Larry W. Paul '79

(criminal justice)
Sept. 21, 2014 — Prescott,
Ariz.

Lois (Merritt) Mikawa

'80 M.Ed. (elementary
education), '87 Ed.D.
(counseling and guidance
personnel services)
Sept. 28, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

Jeffrey A. Wachs '82

(biology)
Oct. 6, 2014 — Glenbrook,
Nev.

Kim C. Kinsey, attended
1985
Oct. 15, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

Deborah (Wolfe) Turner

'85 (finance)
Sept. 23, 2014 — Fort Collins,
Colo.

Betty S. Pierson-Tobey

'86 (management)
Oct. 6, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

Robin A. (Pinski)

Bowman '87 (psychology)
Oct. 14, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

Patricia Hudson

attended 1987-1988
July 29, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

Tamara Sue (Gourley)

Royer '91 (political science)
June 22, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

Kiara A. (Donohue)

Wolf '92 (music), '97
M.Ed. (elementary
education)
Sept. 28, 2014 — Eugene, Ore.

Sara D. Weatherford

'95 (elementary education/
special education), '98 M.A.
(special education)
Oct. 26, 2014 — Sparks, Nev.

William Borges '96

(general studies)
Oct. 31, 2014 — Sparks, Nev.

Paul B. Edwards

'98 M.A. (counseling &
educational psychology)
Oct. 15, 2014 — Sparks, Nev.

Robertson W. Deane

'04 (general studies)
Nov. 8, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

Thomas Christopher

Barb '10 (criminal justice)
Oct. 12, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

Phyllis G. La Prairie

Aug. 8, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

Nathaniel David

Osborne, attended 2006
— 2012
Sept. 4, 2014 — Reno, Nev.

LOOK ONLINE

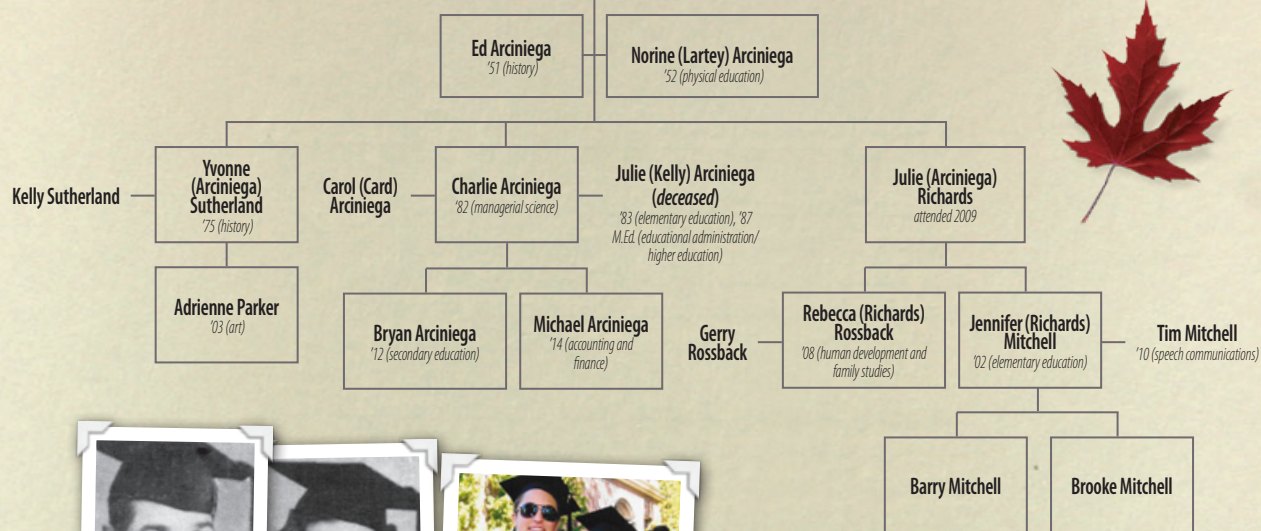
For the full obituaries visit:
www.unr.edu/silverandblue



Link Piazza

Nov. 14, 2014 — Reno, Nev. The original "Voice of the Wolf Pack," Link was a dear friend to the University whose generosity and kindness will be felt in our community for generations to come. He is survived by his son, Craig, and beloved dog, Lily.

Arciniega Family Tree



TOP LEFT: The original Arciniega Nevada graduates, Ed '51 and Norine (Lartey) Arciniega '52. TOP RIGHT: Bryan and cousin Alexandria Arciniega at their graduation in May 2012. RIGHT: Michael Arciniega's graduation in May 2014. BOTTOM RIGHT: The Arciniega family reunion in July 2011.

Generations of Education at Nevada

When Ed Arciniega '51 and Norine (Lartey) Arciniega '52 met at Nevada, little did they know what a legacy they had started. Not only were they first-generation Americans, they were both the first of their family to graduate from college. Since then, all of their children and grandchildren have attended Nevada. Ed and Norine instilled in their children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren a love of family, learning and of Nevada silver and blue!

How many University of Nevada alumni make up your family tree? Let us know, and you could all be featured in an upcoming issue of *Nevada Silver & Blue*. For details, visit unr.edu/alumni or call 888.NV ALUMS.

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**FAMILY
TREE
CHALLENGE**



Matt Clifton '93 (civil engineering)

Alumni Profile: **Matt Clifton '93** *(civil engineering)*

Occupation: **Vice President/General Manager,**
Alston Construction Co.

What has your life been like since graduation?

Just before I graduated in December of 1993, my wife, Kathy, and I got married in Reno. Around the same time, I was hired by Krump Construction as a project engineer to work on the National Bowling Stadium. Following those two events in my life, my career took off. We are blessed with two incredible kids, Riley (19) and Zachary (17) and we live in south Reno. We love to ski at Mt. Rose each winter and boat at Lake Tahoe each summer. I have had the privilege to be able to coach and mentor each of my kids in their various sporting endeavors.

Since entering the construction industry as

a project engineer, I had the opportunity and good fortune to work my way up the ladder to my current role as vice president and general manager at Alston Construction Company. Alston is a nationwide company and I manage offices in Reno and Las Vegas on their behalf.

Reno has been my home since 1987, and I love our community and the quality of life that it offers. Along with serving on the Nevada Alumni Council (this is my second three-year term), I have held board positions with the Academy for Career Education, Nevada Alumni Football Association and the Northern Nevada Children's Cancer Foundation.

You will typically find me in the Alumni Football tailgate area every home game rooting

for my beloved Wolf Pack and wishing I could be on the field just one more time!


What are your fondest memories from Nevada?

There are so many memories to choose from: making friendships with my closest friends in life, all-night study sessions in Getchel Library, finally graduating (I was on the six-and-a-half-year program). But I believe that my fondest memories of Nevada lie on Chris Ault Field at Mackay Stadium. I had the good fortune to play on some very successful football teams and be a part of back to back Big Sky Conference Championships in 1990 and 1991. It was a true honor and blessing to wear the silver and blue and represent Nevada each and every Saturday.

What have you done that you are most proud of?

While I have been fortunate to have a great job, wonderful friends and more opportunities than I deserve, I am most proud of my children and their accomplishments. My wife and I are truly grateful for two great kids who are kind, funny, intelligent, genuine and hard workers. What more success can you ask for in life than that?

What advice would you give someone just starting out after college?

One of the best times in my life was my time spent at Nevada. I believe that college is about figuring out who you are as well as figuring out how to survive and how to be a contributor to society. You are more apt to find success in your life if you love what you do. It makes it much easier to get through the tough times if you enjoy your job. Don't make the mistake of chasing someone else's dream. Find something that you are passionate about and pour yourself into it. 



Provided by the Bourget family

George Bourget estate gift to help medical students for years to come

The late George H. Bourget and his daughter, Judy Bourget '85, '90 M.D. George made provisions in his estate to establish the George H. Bourget Endowed Scholarship for Medical Students through a planned gift.

In appreciation for his daughter's education at the University of Nevada School of Medicine, the late George H. Bourget made provisions in his estate to establish the George H. Bourget Endowed Scholarship for Medical Students through a \$2.9 million planned gift.

Bourget's daughter, Judy Bourget '85 (biology), '90 M.D., is a School of Medicine graduate and maintains a practice in Southern California. She too benefitted from the generosity of medical school philanthropists.

"I received scholarships as a student, but I wouldn't have been able to attend medical school without them," Judy Bourget says. "I am extremely proud of my father's accomplishments and the fact that he chose to share his generosity with future generations of medical students at my alma mater."

School of Medicine Dean Thomas Schwenk says such scholarships go a long way in alleviating medical student debt and its accompanying

anxiety.

"The School of Medicine is extremely appreciative of Mr. Bourget's generosity and the many students he will help," Schwenk says. "Medical student debt is a concern for all medical educators and especially for medical school deans. We know that debt may influence decisions that students make about the medical specialties or types of careers that they choose. We are always looking for ways to reduce that debt, while still securing the tuition support that leads to the best medical education."

As the School of Medicine seeks to be the best possible medical school and contribute to the best possible health care system in Nevada, Schwenk says these goals could not be achieved without donor support.

"I am impressed every day with how hard so many people work to provide the best patient care, be the best teachers, conduct the

best research, be the best partners with our communities, and be the best administrative and academic enterprise we can be," Schwenk says. "But it takes more than hard work and desire, no matter how dedicated or strong. It takes an investment from our community. We are fortunate to have so many supporters, like Mr. Bourget, whose confidence in us can be measured in their generosity."

Bourget was a decorated WWII veteran who landed on the beaches of Normandy and fought in the European theater until the end of the war. After the war, he returned home and became a successful California real estate developer. Before it was popularized on television, Bourget began flipping houses in the 1950s and amassed a vast amount of real estate over the years.

—Roseann Keegan

To learn more about supporting the School of Medicine, please contact Christina Sarman '00, '11 M.A., director of development, (775) 784-6009 or christinas@unr.edu. To learn more about planned giving opportunities at Nevada, please contact Lisa M. Riley, Esq., director of the Office of Planned Giving, (775) 682-6017 or lriley@unr.edu.



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It shows that regardless of how much time has passed, the traditions and values defined by your class are not forgotten. Be proud to call yourself an alumnus of the University of Nevada, Reno. **Keep the tradition alive.**

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